

SOCCE

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WEEKLY

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EXCLUSIVE

APIA'S REVIVAL

BY KEITH GILMOUR

DESPITE Apia-Leichhardt's lowly position on the National League ladder, the club is on the way towards reclaiming its former glory.

That is the loud and clear message from club president Ron Orsatti — and it comes with so much genuine conviction that you had better believe it.

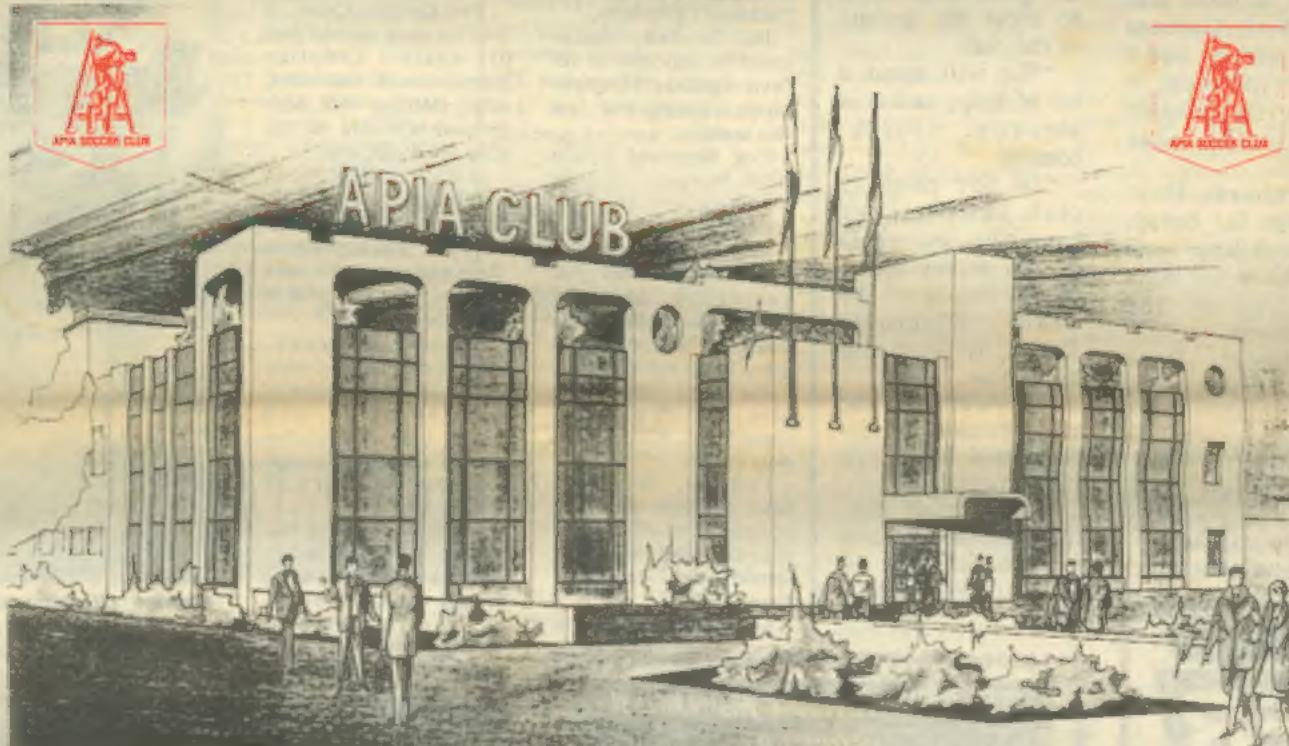
The resurrection of the ailing club is vital to its survival, but the move ahead is already quite marked.

On a number of recent occasions the huge social club has been packed out for big functions, and fresh funds are being raised from club supporters for a badly needed \$1 million refurbishment program.

The illustration on this page demonstrates what the Apia Club will look like after the facade is restored, and in addition the interior will be completely redesigned, a new concrete ground floor put in place, and lighting installed to the parking areas.

The entrance to the club will be switched so that it faces open parkland as well as the magnificent Iron Cove reaches of the Parramatta River.

Hand in hand with the social club rebuilding program will go the upgrading of the football operation — a move that is already being put into place.



The artist's visual of the revamped Apia Club at Leichhardt. Expenditure of \$1 million will see the building re-designed to capture the available outstanding water views. The football club will obtain a huge spin-off from the social club's enterprise.

Said Orsatti, a highly successful builder with growing interests in the quarrying industry: "Apia owns the freehold of the property. Years ago, the club could have afforded the extra debt to rebuild the club, but it didn't go ahead.

"That was a pity, because it could have been one of the most successful clubs in the country today.

"I have spoken to the members and pointed out that the club can have a very prosperous future, in spite of the big debt burden.

"They have responded to the extent that \$146,000 has already been raised in donations, debentures, interest

free loans, and so on."

Gold badge life memberships are available at \$1,000 and silver badge at \$500, with 10 year memberships offered at \$250.

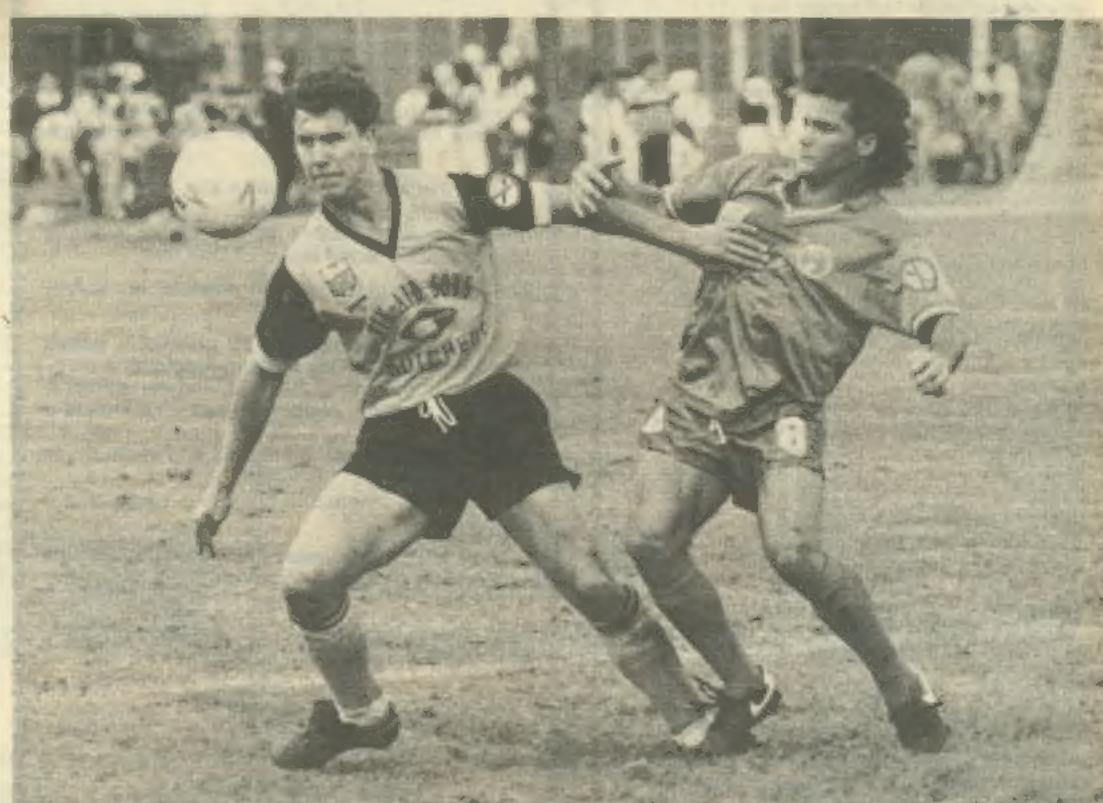
"If I could not see a bright future for the social club and the football club I wouldn't be here," Orsatti added.

The big problem is the club's huge interest bill, but this is being covered at present from revenue.

The plight of the football club is much different to what is revealed in the financial statements.

Apia has included

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 2



Heidelberg's Phil Stubbins gives Sydney Olympic's diminutive Gary Phillips the brush-off during their recent clash at Olympic Village. The teams drew 1-1 — Photo by JOE MONTEMURRO.

Apia stage big revival

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1



many of the debts of the private company that operated the football club, so much of the expense is non-recurring.

The deficit on football trading will reduce.

Budgetting is firmly in place, based on a maximum season's cost basis, and reduces according to lesser commitments if the club ends up down the table.

Over the years this great club has too often spurned itself in the foot, but, given the sort of management that Orsatti and his fellow directors have targeted, the future can be bright once again.

Orsatti said: "I support the thrust of the Bradley Report, because we cannot succeed unless we have a broad cross section of the public keenly interested in the game."

"We have Manfred Schaefer in place as club coach and coaching co-ordinator for the junior teams, Fil Bottalico covering promotions, and the vast experience of Harry Ambrose as secretary.

"The only area we fall short on Bradley is the ground, as Lambert Park has its limitations.

Leichhardt Oval is sitting next door to the club, with its gates locked.

"There should be no discrimination over use of the ground.

"There must be a way for us to play our home games there, as there will be no clash with Balmain rugby league, who could be at Parramatta Stadium by 1992 anyway.

"I have already spoken to NSW premier Nick Greiner on the subject, and I will be following it up at every possible level in the near future."

Leichhardt Oval provides far better short and long term possibilities for Apia than any of the alternatives.

Lambert Park could be upgraded in accordance with the previous plan to take 8,000 spectators in some comfort, but parking would be deficient.

Drummoyne Oval

might be improved at a cost, but it would have to be shared, or the rugby union people approached over Concord Oval.

Another possibility would involve a ground on the adjacent Leichhardt No 2 Oval site.

However, the State Government put half the improvement cost into Leichhardt Oval, and it belongs to the people rather than to any sectional interests.

In future the juniors will be part of the Apia club, and not a separate entity.

Mr Orsatti continued: "We can't do everything right, but we can bridge the credibility gap.

"It is possible for us, given some time, to triple the income of the club.

"We will need a lot of help, and it is already forthcoming.

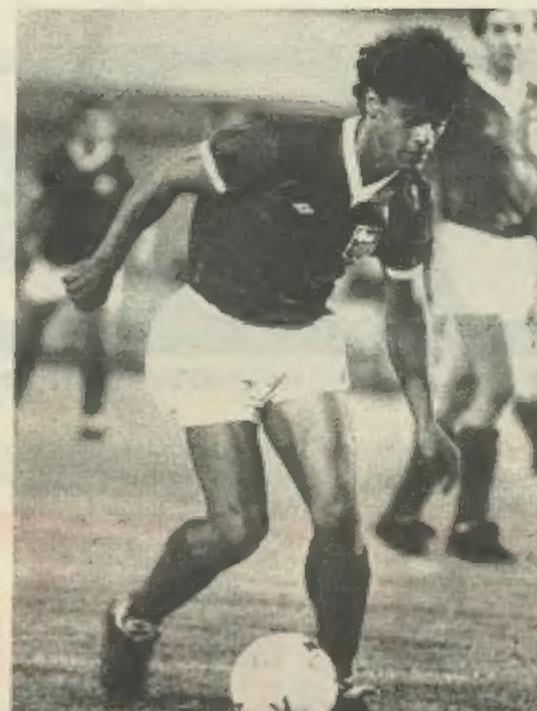
"In the present club elections we have put the whole of the arrangements in the hands of the State Electoral Office, to show our bona fides.

"We will give the club proper administration and keep close control.

"As part of this, the Apia Leichhardt football club will return to its former glory."

Grand Final repeat!

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL



St George's Blago Milicevic on the ball —
Photo: STEPHEN GOSCH.

mini-revival of late, face a determined Sydney Croatia at Skinner Reserve.

For George Cross, it will be their second battle against Croatian opposition in four days, after clashing with Melbourne Croatia in the Cup on Wednesday.

After losing both opening matches at home, Georgie have dropped just a point in their last two and have allowed only one goal in the process.

Croatia however, have been beaten only twice in eight clashes with Sunshine, and coach Tony Vrzina has turned the side around since taking over last season.

Vrzina will miss the services of tough defender Mike Grbevski for a month through injury, but can rely on Ned Zelic and Velemin Kupresak, who have been in



Sydney Olympic striker Scott Ollerenshaw is about to deliver, despite attention from his Heidelberg opponents at Olympic Village.
Result 1-1. Pic: JOE MONTEMURRO.

away from home after a promising start.

Led by ace marksman Warren Spink with six, Preston have banged in 11 goals to date at Connor Reserve.

The visitors will hope to parade new signings Grant Bard and Sasha Bechinovski for the match, but Preston should take the points.

Heidelberg entertain Melbourne Croatia in the local derby down south at the Olympic Village.

The Bergers, who are unbeaten in their last two starts at home, should have striker Stuart Stevenson back from suspension.

Melbourne Croatia have run into trouble of late, conceding 11 goals away in their last three starts.

Heidelberg could surprise on Sunday, having won four of the five matches between the sides at home down the years.

In remaining matches, Melita, should take the points at St George, while Wollongong City, unbeaten at home to date, should take both points against Adelaide City at Brandon Park.



Robbie Hooker, the Sydney Olympic skipper, is in control in the Melbourne game against Heidelberg. Photo: JOE MONTEMURRO.

fine form of late.

With Croatia coming up against Marconi midweek, a draw looks

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HAVE ARRIVED**

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AUSTRALIAN

SOCER

WEEKLY

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3-2 win over Saints flatters Melb Croatia

BY JOHN MANGAN

ST GEORGE'S ill fate continued on Sunday with a 3-2 defeat at the hands of Melbourne Croatia at Somers Street.

Nevertheless, the result flattered the victors, but once Croatia hit the front in the 27th minute their lead seldom seemed threatened.

"We've been very unlucky in crucial situations," said St George boss Frank Arok after the game.

"In the second half, when we were only one goal down, they cleared one of our shots off the line, then broke away to score a third goal."

"After that, we were playing catch up football again."

Melbourne Croatia coach Ante Grgic paid tribute to his opponents after the game.

"They are a good team with a good coach, so I was more than happy with the result."

Ivan Kelic opened the scoring for the home team in the 27th minute, when he slammed home a Mark Talajic pass from close range.

In the 37th minute



Andy Harper

referee Dennis Voutsinas awarded Croatia a penalty, when Josip Biskic appeared to be downed in the penalty area by defender Scott Baillie.

Despite Baillie's protests Voutsinas pointed to the spot, and Branko Milosevic converted.

Voutsinas was in the thick of the action

again in the 47th minute, when Saints striker Randell Easthorpe collided with Croatia goalkeeper David Miller.

Tony Krslovic scored for St George from the penalty spot.

Croatia bounced back in the 59th minute when Biskic once again found room on the right, and crossed to an unmarked Joe Caleta at the far post, who made it 3-1.

To their credit Arok's team kept pushing forward, and in the last minute of normal time their determination was rewarded as Dominic Longo rose to head in a Baillie corner from the left.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 6, Davidson 6, Math 6, Selimidis 6, Hannah 7, Talajic 6, Milosevic 6, Biskic 8 (Silic 86m), Duzel 5, Kelic 5, Caleta 6 (Awaritefe 76m).

ST GEORGE: Filan 6, Milicevic 5, Baillie 6, Moffitt 7, Koczka 7, O'Shea 6, Harper 7 (Frestone 71m), Krasovic 7, Longo 6, Easthorpe 5, El Ali 6.

YELLOW CARDS: Milicevic, Baillie and O'Shea for St George.

REFEREE: Dennis Voutsinas 5.

CROWD: About 4,000.



Eric Hristodoulou works the ball upfield for Sydney Olympic in their 1-1 draw with Sydney Croatia last Sunday — STEVE GOSCH PHOTO.

Middle Park goal feast

BY GREG BLAKE

SOUTH MELBOURNE extended its unbeaten home run to 21 successive matches by beating a courageous Sunshine 4-3 in a spectacular match at Middle Park yesterday.

A big crowd watched in disbelief as South Melbourne came back from 0-2 and 1-3 behind to take the game thanks to a 93rd minute winner from Kimon Taliadoros.

The match had everything with seven goals, three bookings, some furious end to end action, chances falling with monotonous regularity, a collapsed fence and heroism abounding.

The heroism came in the form of South Melbourne's 287-game veteran Steve Blair who, with some 20 minutes to play went down after a nasty clash of heads with Gary Hasler.

Blair, who had helped South Melbourne back from the dead in the early stages, played on with a thick bandage covering his forehead and after the game the wound required a dozen stitches.

The match, which was played at a furious pace, commenced with Sunshine showing its ability to run the opposition ragged and the visitors went ahead after just three minutes when Hasler was on the end of Craig Foster's driving run and he put a brilliant finishing touch to the move to make it 1-0.

Thirty minutes in Sunshine speedster Damian Mori delivered the ball beautifully to Derek Hunter who nipped in behind Blair before calmly stroking the ball past Dave McLaren to make it 2-0.

Three minutes from half time the stuttering South Melbourne machine dragged itself back into contention as it caught the Sunshine defence napping.

As the Sunshine players stopped, believing that referee John Fraser had halted play, Petersen drove a shot home from 28 metres and Sunshine keeper Frank Talia simply stood and watched as the ball rolled over the line after deflecting off the far post.

Sunshine looked to have the match in its keeping six minutes after half-time when Cranney turned brilliantly past Paul Wade on the byline and crossed for David Clarkson to make it 3-1.

But a penalty, conceded by Mori for hand ball on the hour, signalled the start of the remarkable South Melbourne comeback.

Paul Trimble

successively converted for the fifth goal of the match and three minutes later Peter Tsolakis put South Melbourne back on terms as he shot truly on the turn from the edge of penalty spot.

Pandemonium reigned on the terraces as the South Melbourne

supporters celebrated and as they rushed in numbers to greet Tsolakis behind the goals at the scoreboard end the wiremesh fence could no longer support their weight and an entire section crashed to the ground.

Fortunately no-one was hurt in the incident but the five minutes playing time lost as officials tried to re-erect the fence was to eventually play a crucial part in proceedings.

It was during the time added on for stoppages that South Melbourne struck for its dramatic winner in the 94th minute.

In a last-gasp attack skipper Postecoglou ran the ball 30 metres down the left and crossed to where an unmarked Taliadoros was on hand to head home a memorable winner.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: McLaren 6, Healy 6, Postecoglou 6, Durakovic 7, Blair 7, Wade 6, Taliadoros 5, Petersen 6, Trimble 6, Tasios 5 (Boutsianis 63), Tsolakis 6.

SUNSHINE: Talia 6, Mori 6, Rodhouse 6, Waddell 6, Ketsakidis 5, C Foster 6, Kindtnar 6, Hunter 7, Hasler 7, Clarkson 7, Cranney 6.

SCORERS: Petersen 42m, Trimble 60m (pen), Tsolakis 63m, Taliadoros 93m (South Melb); Hasler 3m, Hunter 31m, Clarkson 51m (Sunshine).

YELLOW CARDS: Clarkson 26m, Waddell 47m, Ketsakidis 81m (Sunshine).

REFEREE: J Fraser 8.

CROWD: 5,500.



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MARCONI v SYDNEY OLYMPIC



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Bate bags a brace

BY ROBERT GALVIN

FRANK Bate guided Wollongong City to a comfortable 3-1 win at Parramatta Melita with a five-star display.

Bate's two first half goals gave Wolves their third consecutive victory — and that despite the sending off of striker Pat Brodnik for retaliation with six minutes to go.

Brodnik got his marching orders from referee Alex Spiroski for pushing Melita defender Alfredo Barrios and walked off the field in disbelief.

Frank Bate broke the deadlock after seven minutes following an appalling blunder by Melita keeper Alex McPherson.

He failed to hold a tame shot by David Skeen and an alert Bate raced in for a simple tap from close range.

Pat Brodnik should have increased Wollongong's lead at 19 minutes when he burst onto a poor Alfredo Barrios back pass.

But with only McPherson to beat, he pulled his shot wide from 15 metres.

Brodnik made amends for his miss after 42 minutes when he delicately guided a



David Skeen

header to Bate who slid home Wollongong's second goal from close range.

Melita's response to the first half Wollongong onslaught was two headers from burly striker Marshall Soper.

Soper first powered a header from a Greg

Brown cross straight at Wolves keeper George Bouhoustos on 29 minutes.

Then two minutes later his looping header hit the outside of the post with Bouhoustos well beaten.

Melita stepped up the pace after the break.

But for all their pressure the Eagles only occasionally looked capable of piercing a miserly Wollongong defence, marshalled expertly by former Socceroo Charlie Yankos.

Greg Brown scored a consolation goal for Melita with three minutes to go.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Bouhoustos 7, Green 7, Hollifield 7, Morlando 7, Yankos 8, Lloyd 7, Skeen 7, Cahut 7, Bate 8 (Oldridge 72m), Brodnik 8, Kuz 7, Callini 7.

MELITA: McPherson 6, O'Donnell 6, Williams 6, Barrios 6, Gonzalez 6, Callinan 6, Nowicki 6, Vial 6 (Falcon 70m), Soper (Parson 41m 7), Cerno 6, Brown 7.

SCORERS: Bate 7m, Brodnik 42m, Oldridge 83m for Wollongong City; Brown 87m for Melita.

YELLOW CARDS: Callini 79m for Wollongong City; O'Donnell 20m, Vial for Melita.

RED CARDS: Brodnik 84m for Wollongong.

REFEREE: A. Spiroski

7. CROWD: 2420.

Preston v Ad City scoreless

McRoe walks Melita and Crino

BY ALAN CLARK



Sydney Croatia's Ivan Petkovic struts his stuff in yesterday's 1-1 draw with Sydney Olympic — Photo by STEVE GOSCH.

With Oscar Crino and George Petrov controlling the game in midfield, Preston looked good but could find no way past Alex Tobin and Milan Ivanovich in the centre of the City defence.

George Jolesvksi capped a fine first half with a dynamic 70-metre run that only was halted by a superb Ivanovich tackle.

Both sides then packed their midfield, making the rest of the game something of a disappointment for two such skilful sides.

The early sendings off in the second half saw tem-

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 6, Shillabeer 6, T. Vidmar 6, Ivanovic 8, Tobin 7, Melita 6, Tapai 5, Csoboth 5, Mullen 6, Maxwell 6, Avidmar 6.

RED CARDS: Melita for Adelaide City. Crino for Preston.

YELLOW CARD: Petrov for Preston.

REFEREE: Tom McRoe 6.

NSL CUP



ROUND 1
WED. NOVEMBER 21

★ HINDMARSH STADIUM 8PM ★

Adelaide City vs St George

★ OLYMPIC PARK 8PM ★

Sth Melbourne vs Heidelberg Utd

★ OLYMPIC PARK 6PM ★

Melbourne Croatia vs Sunshine G.C.

★ BRANDON PARK 7.30PM ★

W'gong City vs W'gong Macedonia

★ MARCONI STADIUM 7.30PM ★

Marconi vs Sydney Croatia

★ ST GEORGE STADIUM 7.30PM

Sydney Olympic vs Apia Leichhardt

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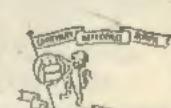
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Clint Gosling in full cry for Sydney Olympic during their 1-1 draw with Sydney Croatia at St George Stadium yesterday. Photo: STEVE GOSCH.

Super Sub Seal!

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

SECOND half substitute David Seal proved to be Marconi's match-winning hero as his side made hard work of breaking down a determined 10-man Heidelberg United in a 1-0 win at Marconi Stadium last night.

The visitors had to battle a man short for most of the game after losing defender Chris Iliopoulos midway through the first half, but although Marconi created many good chances, it was the lone Seal goal that finally won them the points.

Marconi coach Bert Mariani stuck to the same side which took St George apart last week, and they started off in a similar fashion, nearly taking an early lead with a brilliant move in the first five minutes.

Midfielder Ian Gray made a determined 20 metre run on the right flank, and found Zlatko Nastevski inside the box.

But instead of attempting the shot himself, the veteran striker unselfishly dummyed to a perfectly placed David Lowe, who missed the target from eight metres out.

Lowe again got his head to a floating Nastevski corner kick two minutes later, but although he was on target this time, goalkeeper Jeff Olver managed to get his hand to the ball and palmed it around the goalpost.

Heidelberg began to show some signs of

clawing their way back into the game, but were dealt a major blow with the sending off of defender Chris Iliopoulos after 26 minutes.

He brought down Mark Jones in full flight with a seemingly vicious tackle, which left referee Bob Davies with no option but to flash his red card.

The 10-men Bergers closed ranks after this incident, and managed to deny Marconi the reward that some splendid lead-up work deserved.

Nastevski appeared well placed to convert a low cross from the left just before half-time, only for team mate Tommy McCulloch to sneak in and flash his header over the top.

Marconi were spreading the ball wide to both flanks at every opportunity in an attempt to capitalise on their numerical superiority while Heidelberg understandably played it tight at the back, looking for the chance to hit back on the counter.

They came mighty close to doing just that on the hour as Archie McGahey worked through into the box behind and it was left up to keeper Bobby Catlin to save the situation by dashing off his line and smothering the ball at the striker's feet.

Match-winning substitute David Seal finally broke the deadlock with 20 minutes remaining when he sneaked inside the box to capitalise on some good lead-up work from David Lowe and

Jean-Paul de Marigny to beat Olver with a low shot inside the near post.

Lowe again had a marvellous game for Marconi as did McCulloch in midfield and de Marigny, while for the Bergers it was a gutsy team effort to keep the score to just one goal.

MARCONI: Catlin 7, Wheatley 8, de Marigny 8, Calderan 6, Okon 6, Gray 6, McCulloch 7, Jones 6, Nastevski 6 (Katholos 62m), Markovski 6 (Seal 46m, 6), Lowe 8.

HEIDELBERG: Olver 6, Brattan 6, Iliopoulos (sent off 26min), McDowell 6, Cannell 6, Carter 5, Stubbins 6, Herd 6 (Tsakiris 85m), Rizopoulos 6, Goutzioulis 6, McGahey 6 (Kane-soulis 70m).

SCORER: Seal 70m for Marconi.

YELLOW CARDS: Cannell 30m, McDowell 66m, Brattan 75m for Heidelberg.

RED CARD: Iliopoulos 26m for Heidelberg.

REFEREE: R. Davies 6.

CROWD: 3411.

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Apia's fortunes restored

BY LEN CHAFER



Alex Bundalo

APIA Leichhardt scored a goal in each half at the expense of Wollongong Macedonia, and went away with both points from a very windy Brandon Park on Sunday.

The first goal came in the 18th minute, when Tony Lemezina sent a great ball to Gerry Gomez on the right flank.

His first time cross was met on the far post by Alex Bundalo, who slotted the ball into the net from one metre.

Just before the goal Lemezina put Paul McFadden through, but he shot from just outside the penalty area and his effort went wide of the right post.

The very strong southerly wind did not help players on both sides, and they found it difficult to control the ball.

Apia had more chances in the first half with the wind behind them.

Macedonia came into the game in the 35th minute when Paul Kay sent in a good cross from the right.

Darren Wilson rose high above the Apia defence and placed a powerful header to the left hand corner of the goal, but Brett Hughes managed to scramble the ball away with his hand after it had hit him as he was diving.

The half time score was 1-0. In the second half Apia attacked down the left, and when the ball came across one of the Macedonia defenders handled it outside the penalty area.

Alex Bundalo took the free kick on the edge of the 18 yard

line, but his shot was kicked around the post by goalkeeper Peter Wilson for a corner.

In the 62nd minute, Markovski, the Macedonia striker, sent in a cross from the left to the far post, but Adam Sandy hurried his shot and sent the ball sailing over the bar.

Wollongong Macedonia came close to scoring in the 70th minute when a loose ball in the six yard box was punched by Hughes, the ball hitting a Macedonia player in a congested goalmouth and was somehow scrambled away for a corner.

It was all Wollongong Macedonia at this stage and four minutes later Markovski hit a powerful shot from about 30 metres out,

It had goal written all over it but Hughes made a brilliant save to put the ball away for a corner.

Action took place straight away at the other end when McFadden broke loose past the Macedonia defence, but his shot went well wide of the far post.

In the 78th minute Klaus Okon, who was

only on the field for two minutes, scored for Apia after beating Galway to the race of the ball and Wilson stopped his first attempt, but Okon latched onto the loose ball and slotted it into the net.

This goal came against the run of play and gave Apia some breathing space.

In the last two minutes Apia seemed content to hold the ball and push it along the flanks.

Wollongong Macedonia seemed to lack fire power upfront, and this loss puts them on the bottom of the NSL ladder.

WOLLONGONG MACE-DONIA: Wilson 6, Cavanah 7, Dunn 7, Darren Wilson 6, Dimov 6, Kay 5 (Galway 85), Sandy 6, Bourke 6, Markovski 6, Coelho 5, Thornthwaite 5.

APIA LEICHARDT: Hughes 6, Blagojevic 7, Jennings 6, Stewart 6, Brown 6, Clinch 6, Maloney 5 (Okon 76), Gomez 6, McFadden 6, Bundalo 7, Lemezina 5 (McQuarrie 71).

GOALS: Bundalo 18m, Okon 78m (Apia).

YELLOW CARDS: J Cavanah 24m, M Bourke 56m (WM).

REFEREE: J McConnell 6.

CROWD: 2,712.

QUIT NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



WEEKEND FIXTURES

ROUND 8



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v SYDNEY CROATIA

Skinner Reserve 6pm

APIA LEICHARDT v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

Lambert Park 5pm

PRESTON MAKEDONIA v WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA

Connor Reserve 6pm

WOLLONGONG CITY v ADELAIDE CITY

Brandon Park 7pm

ST GEORGE BSC v MELITA EAGLES

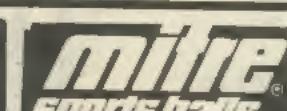
St George Stadium 7pm

HEIDELBERG UNITED v MELBOURNE CROATIA

Olympic Village 6pm

MARCONI v SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Marconi Stadium 7pm



Ansett.





Sydney Croatia's Zeljko Burin: replaced against Olympic in the 76th minute — STEVE GOSCH pic.

QUIT NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	7	4	3	0	12	6	11
Marconi	7	5	0	2	14	4	10
Wollongong City	7	4	1	2	10	7	9
Melbourne Croatia	7	4	1	2	14	13	9
Preston	7	3	2	2	13	9	8
Sydney Croatia	7	2	4	1	6	6	8
Sydney Olympic	7	1	5	1	5	6	7
Heidelberg United	7	2	2	3	9	8	6
Adelaide City	7	1	4	2	8	10	6
Apia Leichhardt	7	2	1	4	7	10	5
Sunshine GC	7	2	1	4	16	20	5
Parra Melita	7	1	3	3	7	11	5
St George	7	1	3	3	8	13	5
Wollongong Macedonia	7	0	4	3	4	10	4

Results

SOUTH MELBOURNE 4 (Petersen, Trimboli, Tsolakis, Taliadoros) SUNSHINE 3 (Hasler, Hunter, Clarkson) at Middle Park. Crowd: 5500.
MARCONI 1 (Seal) HEIDELBERG 0 at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 3411.
MELBOURNE CROATIA 3 (Kelic, Milosevic, Caleta) St George 2 (Krslovic, Longo) at Somers St. Crowd: 4000.
PARRA MELITA 1 (Brown) WOLLONGONG CITY 3 (Bate 2, Bradnik) at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 2420.
ADELAIDE CITY 0 PRESTON 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 3500.
WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 0 APIA LEICHARDT 2 (Bundalo, K. Okon) at Brandon Park. Crowd: 2712.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Ironside) SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (Kupresak) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 4933.

CROWDS

ROUND 7: 28,476
AVERAGE PER GAME: 3,782
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 160,448
AVERAGE PER ROUND: 22,921

TOP SCORERS

WARREN SPINK (Preston)	6
TONY KRSLOVIC (St George)	5
DAVID SEAL (Marconi)	5
GREG BROWN (Parra Melita)	4
DEREK HUNTER (Sunshine)	4
IVAN KELIC (Melb. Croatia)	4
KIM TALIADOROS (South Melbourne)	4
PHIL STUBBINS (Heidelberg)	4

BATHURST '75 SOCCER CLUB

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Applications are invited for 1st grade coach for the 1991 Season.

Currently in Division 3.

All correspondence to Secretary P.O. Box 1156, Bathurst 2795 by November 30.

Further inquiries to Bruce Rooks on

063 37-1305 A.H.



Franken saves point

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ANTHONY Franken, Sydney Croatia's magnificent goalkeeper, earnt his side a vital League point in their 1-1 draw against a raging hot second half Sydney Olympic last night at St George Stadium.

Trailing 0-1 at half-time, Olympic took full control in the second half but despite an avalanche of shots on the target, Franken kept all but one out.

Sydney Croatia centre-back Velimir Kupresak opened the score after 15 minutes when he crashed a powerful header into the net, following an inswinging freekick from 20 metres out by midfielder Ivan Petkovic.

Croatia had almost scored just two minutes after kick-off, when left midfielder Pedro Ricoy from 12 metres blasted well on target but a fully stretched Clint Gosling tipped over his crossbar for a corner.

Olympic's best chance came in the seventh minute when Grant Lee crossed in from the right for Scott Ollerenshaw to trap the ball well inside Croatia's box.

But striker Jason Bennett blasted just over the bar from 10metres out.

Ten minutes before half-time Olympic midfielder Eric Hristodoulou rocked Sydney Croatia's crossbar with a rocketting freekick from 25 metres out on the right — all to no avail.

Robbie Ironside, Olympic's giant Kiwi international midfielder, finally balanced the scoreline with a sensational header 20 minutes before full-time.

Striker Scott Ollerenshaw burst clear of the Croatian defence and veered across the penalty box on the right before wheeling around to clip a short cross into the path of Ironside.

Ironside crashed his powerful header from 10 metres past a fully stretched Franken but the ball grazed right back Paul Carter's left



Manis Lamond in a pensive mood during the thriller at St George Stadium — STEVE GOSCH photo.

hip over the line.

As the ball spilled back out, Jason Bennett roofed the rebound back into the net for insurance.

Ironside, in fact, almost scored in the 58th minute as well when he hit the post and left midfielder Steve Refenes smacked a rebound on target but Franken magnificently saved for a corner.

Sydney Croatia after starting well in the first half saw their midfield of Runje, Petkovic, Gibson and Ricoy completely collapse under the unrelenting pressure by a raging Sydney Olympic.

Ironside told ASW after the match: "It was good to come back after being down by a goal and we are an ounce off hammering someone very soon. In our last five games our opponents' goalkeeper has always been their best player."

Meanwhile, Ironside's coach Mick Hickman, told us: "We were the better side over the whole 90 minutes, yet again we could manage only a draw and it is frustrating for the coaches, players and our supporters."

Croatia boss Tony Vrzina reflected: "Our goalkeeper kept us in the game in the second half as we only played well for the first 30 minutes. Sydney Olympic was the better team but we played with four injured players."

Other than Croatia's outstanding Franken, centre-back Velimir Kupresak was a tower of strength in the visitors' defence whilst Ironside, Hristodoulou, Andrew Bernal and Tony Spyridakos were solid performers for Olympic.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC:

Gosling 6, Barrett 6, Bernal 7, Spyridakos 7, Hooker 5, Lee 5, Ironside 8, Hristodoulou 7, Refenes 5, Ollerenshaw 6, Bennett 6.

SYDNEY CROATIA:
Franken 8, Carter 7, Kupresak 7, Zelic 6, Popovic 6, Runje 6, Petkovic 6, Gibson 6, Ricoy 6, Lamond 5 (Stanton 89), Jurin 5 (Koch 76m).

SCORERS: Ironside 70m (SO); Kupresak 15m (SC).

YELLOW CARDS: Bernal 19m (SO); Petkovic 35m, Ricoy 65m (SC).

REFEREE: C Bambridge 99
CROWD: 4933.

PASCOE VALE PLAYER AWARDS

Melb Croatia v St George

- 3 Biskic (MC)
- 2 Moffitt (StG)
- 1 Hannah (MC)

W'gong Mace v Apia

- 3 Stewart (Apia)
- 2 Bundalo (Apia)
- 1 Cavanah (WM)

Ad City v Preston

- 3 Ivanovic (AC)
- 2 Jolevski (P)
- 1 Jackson (P)

Marconi v Heidelberg

- 3 Lowe (M)
- 2 de Marigny (M)
- 1 McCulloch (M)

Sth Melbourne v Sunshine

- 3 Postecoglou (SMH)
- 2 Mori (SCG)
- 1 Clarkson (SCG)

Wollongong City v Melita

- 3 Bate (WC)
- 2 Yankos (WC)
- 1 Kuc (WC)

Syd Olympic v Syd Croatia

- 3 Franken (SC)
- 2 Ironside (SO)
- 1 Hristodoulou (SO)

PLAYER POINTS

- 12: P Stubbins (H)
- 10: J Filen (StG)
- 9: B Bundalo (Apia), I Petkovic (SC)

- 7: A McPherson (M), D Skae (WC), C Yankos (WC)

NSL YOUTH LEAGUES
Round 6
as at 11.11.90

NORTHERN DIVISION
Sydney Croatia 1 (Vrlc) S.A.S.
8, St George 7 (Kataklos 2, Ciantar 2, Frostone, Zelderman Augerinos) Marconi 3 (Lopez 2, Cam), AIS 1 (Radecki) Sydney Olympic 1 (Cardozo), Apia Leichhardt 2 (Baltan 2) Highfields Azurri 2 (Harris, Bucci), Adamstown Rosebud 0 Melita Eagles 3 (o.g. Soper).

NSL YOUTH LEAGUES

Round 6

as at 11.11.90

SOUTHERN DIVISION
St George BSC 6 4 1 1 10 8 9
Aust. Institute 5 4 1 0 11 4 9
Melita Eagles 5 4 0 1 10 3 8
Highfields 5 3 1 1 10 7 7
Sydney Olympic 6 2 3 1 6 4 7
Sydney Croatia 5 3 0 2 6 3 5
Wollongong C 5 2 1 2 4 8 5
Marconi 5 2 0 3 8 13 4
S.A.S. 5 1 1 3 4 5 3
Apia Leichhardt 5 1 1 3 6 9 3
Wollongong M 5 0 1 4 1 10 1
Adamstown 5 0 0 5 7 17 0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

25 November

St Melbourne Hellas 5 (Palatides 2, Michalakopoulos, Tiktikakis, Wright) Sunshine George Cross 0, Springvale City 5 (McCleagh 4, Ciccarelli) Heidelberg United 3 (Papadopoulos 2, Bortignon, Melbourne Croatia 3 (Bergam 2, Grbac) South Melbourne Hellas Colts 0, Caulfield City 1 (Argiriou) Brighton 0, Adelaide City 2 (Taliadira, Christopoulos) Preston Makedonia 1 (Bekiaris), Altona Gate 2 (Georgievski, Markovski) Northcote City 3 (Tsikouras, Kokkinos, Keranis), Geelong City 3 (Black, Plummer, Fitzpatrick) Melbourne Croatia Colts 2 (Suric, Ivleva).

P W D L F A Pts
Adelaide City 7 6 1 0 27 8 13
Preston Mak 7 4 2 1 14 4 10
Sunshine GC 7 4 1 2 15 15 0
Caulfield 7 3 3 1 8 8 8
Melb. Croatia 7 4 0 3 28 11 8
Heidelberg 7 3 2 2 12 10 8
Altona Gate 7 3 1 3 13 10 7
SM Colts 7 3 1 3 8 13 7
Geelong City 7 2 1 4 11 10 5
Brighton 7 2 0 5 8 13 4
Northcote City 7 2 0 5 10 21 4
Melb. Cr. Colts 7 1 1 5 9 17 0
Springvale 7 1 1 5 7 15 3

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Carlo Taliadira Adelaide City 7, Nick Papadopoulos Heidelberg United 7, Joe Barbaro Adelaide City 6, George Alkakes Caulfield City 5, Richard Milanovic Melbourne Croatia 5, Janni Suric Melbourne Croatia Colts 5, Mitchell Cartermole Sunshine George Cross 5.

— ROY HAY

* LIVE QNSL BROADCASTS *

ASW's Greg Blake can be heard each weekend on 3AK's SUPER SOCCER SUNDAY

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SOCCKET POOLS



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MATCH RESULTS WEEK 277

SAT. 17th NOVEMBER, 1990

ENGLISH DIVISION 1		ARSENAL	SOUTHAMPTON	1	4-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 2		COVENTRY	LIVERPOOL	2	0-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 3		LEEDS	DERBY	3	3-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 4		LUTON	MAN. CITY	4	2-2★
SCOT. PREM. DIVISION		MAN. UTD.	SHEFF. UTD.	5	2-0
SCOTTISH DIVISION 1		NORWICH	ASTON VILLA	6	2-0
SCOTTISH DIVISION 2		NOTTM. FOREST	SUNDERLAND	7	2-0
FA CUP - 1ST ROUND		O.P.R.	CRYSTAL PALACE	8	1-2
VAUXHALL LEAGUE PREMIUM DIVISION		WIMBLEDON	CHELSEA	9	2-1
RESERVE MATCHES		BRISTOL C.	HULL	10	4-1
*		CHARLTON	OXFORD UTD.	11	3-3★
*		IPSWICH	Notts C.	12	0-0
*		LEICESTER	WOLVES	13	1-0
*		NEWCASTLE	BARSLEY	14	0-0
*		PLYMOUTH	MILLWALL	15	3-2
*		PORTSMOUTH	MIDDLESBRO	16	0-3
*		PORT VALE	OLDHAM	17	1-0
*		SHEFF. WED.	SWINDON	18	2-1
*		WATFORD	BRISTOL R.	19	1-1★
*		WEST BROM.	BLACKBURN	20	2-0
*		WEST HAM	BRIGHTON	21	2-1
*		BLACKPOOL	GRIMSBY	22	2-0
*		BOURNEMTH	GILLINGHAM	23	2-1
*		BRADFORD C.	SHREWSBURY	24	0-0
*		CHESTER	DONCASTER	25	2-2★
*		DARLINGTON	YORK	26	1-1★
*		EXETER	CAMBRIDGE U.	27	1-2
*		HALIFAX	WREXHAM	28	3-2
*		HEREFORD	PETERBORO	29	1-1★
*		LEYTON O.	SOUTHEND	30	3-2
*		LINCOLN	CREWE	31	1-4
*		PRESTON	MANSFIELD	32	0-1
*		ROCHDALE	SCUNTHORPE	33	1-1★
*		ROTHERHAM	STOCKPORT	34	1-0
*		WIGAN A.	CARLISLE	35	5-6
*		BARKING	BISHOPS S.	36	0-5
*		HARROW	BOGNOR R.	37	1-3
*		HENDON	DAGENHAM	38	1-2

* VAUXHALL LEAGUE PREMIUM DIVISION

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 278

SAT. 24th NOVEMBER, 1990

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	LIVERPOOL	MAN. CITY	1
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	LUTON	ASTON VILLA	2
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	O.P.R.	ARSENAL	3
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	SHEFFIELD UTD.	SUNDERLAND	4
SCOT. PREM. DIVISION	SOUTHAMPTON	CRYSTAL P.	5
SCOTTISH DIVISION 1	TOTTENHAM	NORWICH	6
SCOTTISH DIVISION 2	WIMBLEDON	EVERTON	7
SCOTTISH DIVISION 3	BARSLEY	WOLVES	8
SCOTTISH DIVISION 4	BRIGHTON	MILLWALL	9
FA CUP - 1ST ROUND	CHARLTON	PORTSMOUTH	10
VAUXHALL LEAGUE PREMIUM DIVISION	IPSWICH	BRISTOL C.	11
RESERVE MATCHES	NEWCASTLE	WATFORD	12
*	NOTTS C.	SWINDON	13
*	OXFORD UTD.	MIDDLESBRO	14
*	PLYMOUTH	WEST HAM	15
*	WEST BROM.	SHEFF. WED.	16
*	BIRMINGHAM	BOURNEMOUTH	17
*	BURY	STOKE	18
*	CAMBRIDGE U.	SHREWSBURY	19
*	CREWE	BRADFORD C.	20
*	EXETER	BRENTFORD	21
*	FULHAM	TRANMERE	22
*	GRIMSBY	BOLTON	23
*	PRESTON	HUDDERSFIELD	24
*	READING	SOUTHEND	25
*	ROTHERHAM	MANSFIELD	26
*	SWANSEA	CHESTER	27
*	WIGAN A.	LEYTON O.	28
*	ALDERSHOT	MAIDSTONE	29
*	BURNLEY	HALIFAX	30
*	DONCASTER	BLACKPOOL	31
*	GILLINGHAM	CARDIFF	32
*	HARTEPOOL	SCARBORO	33
*	HEREFORD	PETERBORO	34
*	LINCOLN	DARLINGTON	35
*	ROCHDALE	CARLISLE	36
*	WREXHAM	SCUNTHORPE	37
*	YORK	NORTHAMPTON	38

* G.M. VAUXHALL CONFERENCE LEAGUE

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

For Past Results and Historical Date on The Pools, write to: T.M.S. P.O. Box 2937 DD GPO Melbourne 3001. Or Phone (03) 328 3345.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — NOVEMBER 19, 1990

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 12/11/90 — WEEK 276

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										
1	3	2	42	4	20	6	35	7	37	8	52	1	6	10	8	4	5	2	6	1
2	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
3	47	60	54	59	50	55	54	49	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
4	27	16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
5	57	46	38	57	52	56	56	51	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
6	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	30	31	32	33	34
7	51	56	56	65	66	77	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
8	34	35	36	37	38	39	38	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
9	58	69	63	73	57	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 277 SAT 17 NOVEMBER, 1990

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
4, 11, 25, 26, 19, 33.
Supplementary Number: 19.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE	ARSENAL	Southampton	4
ARSENAL	Coventry	Liverpool	5
Coventry	Leeds	Brighton	6
Leeds	Luton	Derby	7
Luton	Manchester United	Sheffield United	8
Manchester United	Nottingham Forest	Derby	9
Nottingham Forest	Queens Park Rangers	Millwall	10
Queens Park Rangers	Wimbledon	Charlton	11
Wimbledon	Playing Sunday	Wolverhampton	12
Playing Sunday	Everton	Port Vale	13
Everton	English division two	Walsall	14
Walsall	Bristol City	Blackburn	15
Bristol City	Charlton	Wolverhampton	16
Charlton	Ipswich	New	

NSL Cup kicks off

The 1990/91 NSL Cup kicks off this Wednesday, November 21 with six matches at venues in Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Wollongong.

Adelaide's Hindmarsh Stadium plays host to the match between former winners Adelaide City (1979 and 1989) and the team they defeated in that first triumph, St George.

Olympic Park, Melbourne will be the scene of a double header with Western Suburbs rivals Melbourne Croatia tackling Sunshine Coast Cross in the early fixture.

The late game brings together old rivals Heidelberg United and South Melbourne Hellas.

The Bergers lead their head to head confrontations in the Cup with six wins to one and a goal tally of 13 to 8.

However, South Melbourne Hellas, the current Cup holders, were also runners up in 1987, whilst Heidelberg were runners up in 1980, 1982 and 1983.

Brandon Park, Wollongong will be the scene for Illawarra's first NSL local derby



South Melbourne skipper Angie Postecoglou with last season's NSL Cup.

with both Wollongong clubs, City and Mac-

dona, striving to prove they are the re-

gion's number one team.

Another local derby is scheduled for Marconi Stadium for the two Fairfield-based clubs.

With both clubs striking form, it will be interesting tussle to see who is top of the pile out west.

The two have only met twice previously in the Cup, with Sydney Croatia winning both with an aggregate of 3-1.

Both clubs have won the Cup once, Marconi in 1980 and Sydney Croatia in 1987.

The final match sees old rivals Sydney Olympic and Apia Leichhardt clash once again, with Olympic winning the seven contests 5-2, with a goal aggregate of 17 to 8. Both clubs have won the Cup twice.

Apia triumphed in 1982 and 1988. Olympic wins came in 1983 and 1985, and they were also runners up in 1989 and 1990.

ANSETT WORLD CUP AUSTRALIAN SQUAD: Back Row: Coach: Juan Hompart. Manager: Javier Cavier, John Grimaud, Adrian Denys, Louie Tajeiki, Jack Caran, Eddie Kusman, Zeljko Gagula, Fernando Lopez, Christian Nesvra. Masseur: Hugo Lopez. Front Row: Peter Kadlec, Joe Spiteri, Patricio Barrera, Christian Ibeas. Mascot: Juan Fernando Hompart, Oliver Pondoljak, Zelko Masinkovic, Paul Babic, Lemmo Libret. ABSENT: Charlie Sant, Darryl Bilic, Peter Filipovic, Branko Culina.

Australia shines in Ansett Cup



The Ansett World Cup, taking place at John Cain Reserve, is highlighting some promising talent that may have otherwise been overlooked.

The Australian squad, coached by Juan Hompart, have dealt crushing defeats on Chile (8-1) and Malta (4-1), and have now reached finals stage of the tournament.

A number of the players, including some youngsters, have since been approached to play in higher grades.

Two of the most inspiring members of the squad are Oliver Pondoljak and Peter Kadlec, who have scored six and five goals respectively in just two matches.

Results of Ansett Cup rounds 1 and 2 were:

Portugal 3 Poland 2, England 4 Spain 0, Chile 2 Australia 1, Scotland 2 Malta 2, Mauritius 1 Argentina 1, Hungary 1 El Salvador 1, Yugoslavia 1.

The points at this

Iavia 4 Albania 1, Greece 3 Turkey 0, Portugal 1 Mauritius 0, Spain 3 Hungary 4, Chile 2 Scotland 1, Australia 4 Malta 1, Poland 1 Argentina 4, England 3 El Salvador 0.

stage were:

Group A: Greece 4, Turkey 2, Yugoslavia 2, Albania 0.
Group B: Australia 4, Chile 2, Scotland 1, Malta 1.
Group C: Portugal 4, Argentina 3, Mauritius 1, Poland 0.
Group D: England 4, Hungary 3, El Salvador 1, Spain 0.

SEND your stories and photographs to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY. Team and action photos will be welcomed.
Address all material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.



JOEYS SQUAD

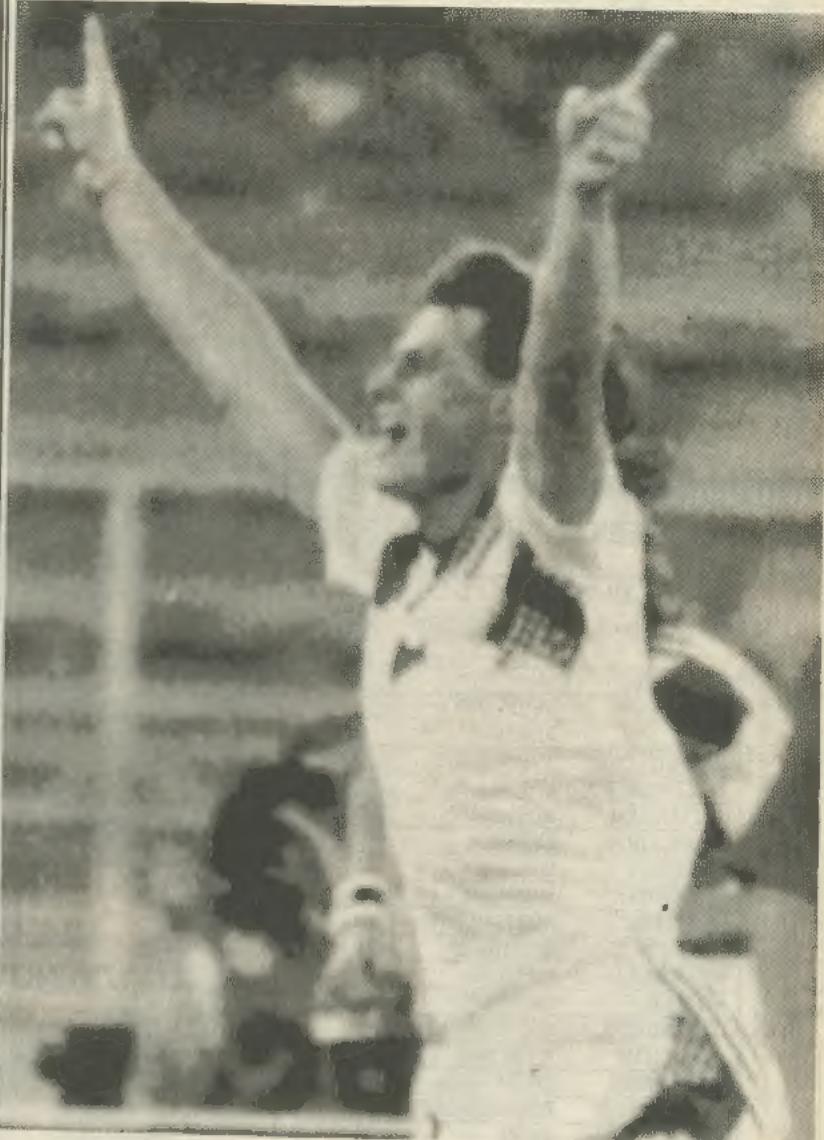
The squad is: Anthony Carbone (WA capt), George Karamalis (SA), Frank Bot (Victoria), Tony Jozsef (NSW), Paul Doe (NSW), Mathew Coutouvidis (SA), Dominik Usaj (NSW), Lorenzo Campagna (NSW), Vassilios Kalegeragos (ACT), Alex Kiratzoglou (Victoria), Vasco Trpcovski (Victoria), Craig Moore (Queensland), Aaron Healey (Victoria), Edward Pena (NSW), Fabio Macolino (NSW), Jason Farrugia (Victoria), Darren Iocca (NSW), Steve Wardle (Victoria).

OFFICIALS: Dave Williams (Newcastle) tour leader, Brian Corrigan (doctor), Pedro Ruiz (physiotherapist), Rod Woods (administrator).

Yesterday, Scheinflug said: "We can thank the juniors for making the funds

Czech tour certain

BY KEITH GILMOUR



Tomas Skuhrahy — Czechoslovakia's ace striker.

earlier group matches.

"The Czechoslovakian Football Association was naturally quite preoccupied with arrangements for their

game against Spain.

"We can now expect to hear more of their Australian tour plans," Mr Vessey added.

Joeys set sail for South America

BY KEITH GILMOUR

Australia's 18 man under 17 Joeys squad departs for Buenos Aires tomorrow (Tuesday) for its eight match tour of Argentina and Chile.

The team plays one game in Buenos Aires and then moves on to Chile for the balance, which includes encounters with Chile's under 17 representatives on Sunday November 25 in Santiago and Wednesday November 28 in Vina del Mar.

Anthony Carboni from Perth has been named as Australian captain.

The coach, Les Scheinflug, will be assisted by Raul Blanco.

National coach Eddie Thomson will be in the party.

Dave Williams from Newcastle is the tour leader, Brian Corrigan the doctor and Pedro Ruiz the physiotherapist.

They have an obvious advantage but this tour will steel our players for the job ahead."



LES SCHEINFLUG

available for this trip.

"We have only had the camps, so the tour is absolutely vital for our preparations.

"We start our Oceania qualifiers for the World Cup on January 13, with competition from New Zealand, Fiji, Tahiti, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

The New Zealand side has been preparing for the series for two whole years.

They have an obvious advantage but this tour will steel our players for the job ahead."

FOOTNOTE: ASW's John Warren is now in South America and will report on some of the Joey games.

GERMAN MATCH IS OFF



THE last match between East and West Germany due to be held in Leipzig this week has been called off because of a recent wave of hooliganism in the former Communist state.



Franz Beckenbauer

The West German soccer federation (DFB) said they had agreed with their East German counterparts and Leipzig city officials at a meeting on Tuesday that the match would be cancelled because of security reasons.

"It has not yet been decided whether the match will be played elsewhere in Germany," a DFB spokesman said. "But the Leipzig match is off."

Earlier this month, an 18-year-old fan was killed and a 23 year old was shot in the stomach when Leipzig police opened fire after hooligans rampaged through the city centre.

The match on November 21 was due to be the last East-West Germany soccer game before the two soccer federations merge following German political unification on October 3.

It was also billed as a tribute to German World Cup winning coach Franz Beckenbauer.

The Frankfurt-based DFB said Germany's interior minister

Rudolf Krause and Leipzig city security official Hans Oberhard Gemkow had called for the cancellation at the Leipzig meeting because of recent violence and the lack of necessary facilities at the city's stadium.

Police in the former Communist state are not as experienced in dealing with hooligans as their West German counterparts.

"The decision does not mean soccer is giving in to violence," the DFB said in a statement. "It is just an inevitable result of an unusual security situation."

German soccer chiefs are worried their clubs could be barred from European competition because of increasing German hooliganism at home and abroad.

In addition to the recent trouble around East German league matches, West Germans last month ran riot in Luxembourg after a European Championship qualifying match.

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Higuita is flamboyance personified

YOU either loved or hated Colombia's flamboyant goalkeeper, Rene Higuita, during Italia '90.

Personally I am a fan, though coaches I have spoken to in Australia were divided on whether they would play Higuita in their team.

Thankfully for those who admire his style, Rene is not about to change his ways despite being found out by Cameroun's Roger Milla in Italia '90...

Nick Harling of "World Soccer" reports "Higuita will not be moved" in the following article.

Higuita, incidentally, was voted Colombia's best player at Italia '90 by Colombian fans...

The best news to emerge from the World Cup finals was that Rene Higuita will not be changing his flamboyant ways.

One of the few players to bring a modicum of fun to the general tedium of the games in Italy, the tragedy was that Colombia's goalkeeper was made to pay for his most eccentric moment.

It came, as the whole world now knows, in the second round tie, against Cameroun when Higuita attempted to upstage Roger Milla, coincidentally, one of the few other players to also enlighten the finals with a smile as well as dexterity.

Under the eyes of the watching Neapolitan crowd, not to mention a vast global audience, Milla gained a decisive victory in the personal one-on-one conflict around the centre circle.

"We wanted Higuita to come out dribbling" said Milla, "but I think he thought he was a better dribbler than I was. I had to show him who was best".

The sequel of Milla going on to shoot into an empty net was enough to make any goalkeeper decide on a more reserved approach in the future.

Fortunately, not the 25-year-old Higuita.

True, he entered the press conference at the San Paulo Stadium looking a trifle sheepish, bemoaning, no doubt, the fact that the only reason his presence had been demanded by the world media was that he had made what was to prove the

bottom line may be just enough to make any European club manager reconsider his options.

If top continental managers were



Rene Higuita being "found out" by a partially obscured Roger Milla in the dramatic Colombia v Cameroun Round 2 World Cup tie in Naples.

most appalling gaffe of the entire finals.

It would surely have been preferable would it not for Higuita, had he strolled in following a sublime performance in the safe knowledge that the questioners would want extra information on how he had reached this shot or that.

Instead all they wanted to know was what possessed him to race more metres out of his penalty area, than is even the custom, to demand a return pass from Jose Perea.

By obliging, the otherwise excellent sweeper was partly to blame.

He could have swept the ball upfield but Colombia being Colombia, that was not his way or Higuita's.

Not for them the expedient safe way out.

Football is after all so much of an artform for these South Americans, that anything was better than the hurried boot to safety.

So it was that Higuita took on Milla.

"I always play like that. It is my style but today it didn't work", he reflected.

"Most of the time, things have turned out well and I work hard not to make mistakes but this time I made a mistake and I'm sorry. I don't think I can change although this is a good experience for the future".

The bottom line may be just enough to make any European club manager reconsider his options.

If top continental managers were

wondering whether Higuita might not be a safety risk, they might be tempted if only he could restrict his up-field excursions just a little.

For Higuita has made no secret of the fact that he is desperate to play abroad, to leave once and for all, the Colombia where he grew up and made his name.

He makes no secret at all that the chief reason is money.

"I hope that the World Cup Finals were seen as a major test of my abilities", he said.

He refutes suggestions that with Europeans more eager to display their propensity for accurate long range shooting, his impulsiveness might be a lot less conducive to the footballing philosophy abroad.

"On the contrary, there will be a lot more opportunities to come out", says Higuita "because the Europeans play more long balls and hit their passes into the spaces behind the defenders. That is where I can help".

Colombian manager Francisco Maturana insists that Higuita's antics do not prevent him sleeping at night.

"Higuita is the saviour of Colombia and not the crazy goalkeeper that some see in him. He brings the ball out with competence and great security".

Maturana is not far from the truth.

For in all Higuita's ventures from his goal, there were few times in Italy when he did not

deliver the ball directly to a teammate, as Rudy Voller for one, will testify, after the tempestuous duel in the group D game against West Germany.

The story is a familiar one.

The regular keeper failed to show up for the game and Higuita went between the posts and did the business.

It was for his goalkeeping that Millonarios of Bogota originally employed Higuita, who, judging from his indulgences, is obviously still a frustrated outfield player.

He turns out infrequently in midfield for his present club, Nacional in Medellin, from whom he also takes the penalties.

Unfortunately for him, Colombia and everyone watching the South Americans at the World Cup, the great dream of Italy was not realised.

Colombia were not awarded a penalty and Higuita's aberration prevented them from reaching the shootout stage against Cameroun.

The sight of the long-haired, moustachioed maverick striding up from one end of the field to convert a penalty at the other was thus denied.



PAUL GASCOIGNE — amazingly dropped from last week's Euro-92 qualifier against Ireland because England coach Graham Taylor deemed him "too volatile" to tackle the tough Irish in Dublin

Vito Cilauro re-elected

BY GREG BLAKE

Vito Cilauro was returned as Victorian Soccer Federation chairman for what is expected to be a final two-year term at the VSF AGM last Thursday night in Melbourne.

Cilauro took over 50 per cent of the vote to defeat Peter Korak and John Hodgson for the chairman's position.

Anne McPhee won the vice-presidency from Tom Bailey.

Cilauro, who had earlier announced that if elected his second two year term at the helm of the VSF would be his last as an actively involved administrator, told the gathering: "I did it my way" during his victory speech.

Cilauro also said that one of his main priorities would be to set up a board of commissioners to oversee the game in Victoria.

Cilauro now begins his 33rd year in VSF management.

VSF President John Dimtsis announced another new sponsor for the Federation, the Review Group.

Full details of the new sponsorship will be launched at a function later this year.

Tonight (Monday) the position of chairman for the newly formed Victorian Soccer Federation Premier League will be decided.

In contention for the post are former Brunswick Juventus president and team manager Joe Caruso, Joe Brondolino, a former official with Northcote and Heidelberg, and Lou Stafrace, who is up for re-election having held the post of State League chairman for two years.

Tonight's meeting will also elect three Premier League representatives for the VSF.



players, who had the honour of playing against him in years gone by, being acknowledged by ABC's John Bell in his introduction.

It was the night for the Jimmys with the presence of J. Rooney, J. Mackay, J. Armstrong and J. Mills. Those Socceroos of the past were joined by some of the present crop: M. Petersen, P. Trimboli and K. Taliadoros.

It all added to the magic of the night with of course the great Pelé being everybody's hero.

One of the highlights of last Thursday night's VSF AGM was the presentation of trophies to the best and fairest players and top goalscorers from each of the Victorian divisions.

Winners in each of the categories were:

VIC. ONE BEST AND FAIREST — Steve Hackett (Werribee)

VIC. ONE. TOP SCORER — Danny Nield (Doveton)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

Bringing out the Bergers' best

BY GREG BLAKE



LEN MCKENDRY

WITH a little fanfare as possible the Mac is back. Which Mac? Len McKendry of course.

Victoria's most successful coach of the past decade at state and club level but, curiously, not everybody's golden-haired boy.

But at least he has managed to sneak back into the major leagues with as little controversy as possible.

But, if only to show that controversy hasn't completely eluded Heidelberg's coaching maestro, now his opposite numbers have taken to shooting broadsides his way.

As usual McKendry isn't about to shirk the issue.

In the face of a verbal barrage from St George coach Frank Arok (surprise, surprise!), after Heidelberg's recent 2-2 draw in Sydney, laconic Lenny wasn't about to be caught out.

"Here's the man who, only a couple of years ago, was calling his team mad dogs and he's got the cheek to say that we're the dirtiest team he's ever played against," was McKendry's response.

"But then again now that he's no longer the national team coach he doesn't get much of a chance to jump up and down in front of the TV cameras these days."

Ouch! But that little verbal parry and thrust has been about all we've heard from McKendry this season.

For the most part it has just been getting down to the business of re-establishing the club in the nation's premier competition.

"We're delighted with the start we've had," he says.

"Perhaps we should have been doing better than we actually are in

terms of points but I am pleased so far."

Certainly there have been a few struggles faced by Heidelberg, circa 1989, when it returned to the NSL with a very young side it was hardly away from the foot of the ladder all season long.

Despite battling injury problems with the likes of George Slifkas and Alan Scott and the permanent loss of Wales-bound top scorer Paul Lewis, the Bergers have been more than just competitive in the opening weeks of the season.

"I think this time around the team is far better organised and certainly more skilled and experienced," he told ASW.

"We'll be better and stronger with Scott and Slifkas back and we still have to settle on a partnership up front."

"Terry Rizopoulos (from Port Melbourne) is certainly a prospect at 21 and might be the man to play alongside Stuart Stevenson."

"But as I said, in general it has been a very satisfying start to the season."

McKendry, always roundly criticised for his coaching successes because he has inherited good teams, reflects on Heidelberg's 1990 State League championship success with great pride.

He rated the win as one his best.

"It (the title) was so satisfying for me," he told ASW.

"To be able to mould the so-called cast-offs and misfits into a 90 goal team was a great thrill."



Clarinda Under 14 Super League recently won the Eastern Regional Championship defeating Mitcham 3-0. This is the second year in a row they have won the Eastern Regional Competition. The players are: Left to right: Manager-Manny Delidakis, Sam Poutakidis, George Gizdimidis, Spiros Kargas, Con Blatsis, Theo Petkaris, Serge Tersero, Harry Delidakis, Peter Michael. Coach: Jim Oungrini. Front: Con Tsevis, Arthur Farmakiotis, Arthur Athanasopoulos, Dean Pilatsaris, Con Anthopoulos.

JEFF OLVER COLUMN

Pelé — still an inspiration

IT was interesting to note the comments of legendary Pelé last week as he advocated the end of defensive walls which counteract attacking free kicks.

As a goalkeeper I have mixed feelings regarding this issue as of course I will be more exposed to the direct shot from the free kick.

The ability of players to bend and dip balls is obviously a

problem for goalkeepers but a great source of excitement for the spectators.

On the other hand the abolition of the walls allows the goalkeeper to have a clearer look at the ball.

So Pelé's suggestions if adopted would set up a great contest between striker and goalkeeper and I'm sure that won't do the game any harm.

That's the positive but I guess a number of my colleagues may see it differently.

The great man is still

a source of inspiration to any player, young or old, the magic that only Pelé can project is still very evident in the man.

The dinner at which he spoke in Melbourne was attended by players, administrators, coaches, referees, spectators, media and some Aussie Rules players.

All sat in awe of the "The Black Pearl" and everybody waited

for his signature.

It was great to see

some of the Aussie

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NSW draws issued

BY KEITH GILMOUR

The NSW Soccer Federation already has its 1991 draft draw for the First and Second Divisions on the way out to the clubs.

And a sponsorship deal has been organised which will see the clubs competing for prize money.

NSW Soccer Federation president Peter Thorne said: "The priorities this year were to prepare for a good competition in 1991 after the 1990 problems, have a draft draw released early, and attend to the streamlining of our organisation.

"The directors have moved ahead in these vital areas, and the game will benefit from it.

"In addition, we have assisted the NSW Amateur Federation who will have seven or eight air-conditioned offices and their own entry lobby shortly.

"Remodelling of the NSW Federation offices will follow."

The NSW Federation finances have been greatly improved.

Mr Thorne believes the sale of surplus Parklea land, and arrangements to begin a licenced club in about 18 months time, will ultimately see the financial burden taken off the Federation's clubs.

"Sixty per cent of the Federation's land is being zoned as residential, so the proceeds of the development will give us a great boost."

Many clubs have discussed their own administrative and ground improvements with the Federation.

"The response has been positive," Mr Thorne said.

"For example, Avala is a club with a long way to go, but it is encouraging to see the way they are putting the house in order.

"The ground beside the Serbian Club has tremendous potential for them.

"There are a number of other clubs who are moving in the right direction.

"Take the Manly Warringah area for example.

"The combining of forces by North Shore and Manly Warringah is a positive step.

"No doubt there will be a continuing dialogue with Warringah Freshwater.

"Manly Warringah has its own licensed club which is now making progress.

"Some time in the future the Peninsula must have the possibility of going all the way to the NSL."

The NSW clubs were pleased to have

Newcastle and Canberra competing again.

NSW expects that these two major cities will carve niches for themselves in the NSL, quite possibly for the 1991/92 season.

It is already planning for the improvements that will be necessary at state level for the 1992 winter season.

Restoration of a very competitive NSW State League will certainly put the state back on the track for major progress.



PERSONALITY PLAYER



Ian Gray
(Marconi)

BIRTHPLACE & DATE: Sydney, 22/7/63.
HEIGHT & WEIGHT: 5'11", 82kg

MARRIED: No.

HOME: Sydney.

NICKNAME: "Iggy"

CAR: Hi-Ace

OCCUPATION: Fulltime player

PREVIOUS CLUB: Manly Vale, Western Suburbs, Apia.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS CLUB: Leeds.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Lothar Matthäus.

FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Marconi team-mates.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: All young players

FAVOURITE GROUND: Olympic Park.

MOST MEMORABLE GAME: Scotland vs Australia at Hampden Park in 1985 and the 1988 Grand Final, Marconi v Sydney Croatia.

BIGGEST THRILL: Being in Frank Arok's World Cup squad.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Australia missing out on qualifying for the 1986 World Cup Finals.

WORST INJURY: Two operations on my left ankle.

FAVOURITE POSITION: Middle of the park or even sweeper

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf and water skiing

FAVOURITE FOOD: Seafood.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Top Forty Dance Music.

FAVOURITE TV SHOW: E-Street.

BEST FRIEND: My girlfriend Jackie.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My father and the current coach who ever that happens to be at the time.

AMBITIONS: To continue playing as long as possible at top level.

MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Zlatko Nastevski.

PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: The bloke that hands out the Lotto cheques.

PREDICTION FOR TOP FIVE SERIES: Marconi, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne, Adelaide City and Apia.

— JOHN ECONOMOS

The year of the Spink!

BY GREG BLAKE

Preston striker starts on target



WARREN SPINK

LET'S face it, I'm not Warren Spink's biggest fan.

The diminutive Preston Makedonia sharpshooter might be, to coin a phrase, right back in town but for this scribe his spectacular return to goalscoring form has come two seasons too late.

After opening my big mouth and selecting him to finish league top scorer for the past two seasons in succession, he's decided to wait until I jumped off the bandwagon to get back to his brilliant best.

So thanks a whole heap, Warren.

OK, so granted he did have a broken foot for most of last season and missed 22 matches as a result.

Perhaps on this occasion he deserves a break (forgive the pun), and we'll give him the benefit of the doubt for just a single goal during the league's first summer campaign.

As far as Preston is concerned it has been a case of come back Warren, all is forgiven.

And the pint-sized goal-ace with the mop of curly black hair has done just that — with a vengeance.

Two hat-tricks in five rounds is ample proof that this young champion is back on a roll and set to beat his best-ever NSL league goal mark of 13.

Spink, who says a big pre-season has put him back into the most valuable player lists, hit his peaks in 1986, with Preston, and 1988 with Melbourne City JUST when he ended the season with a club record high for the former NSL team.

"This year I was determined that I would make sure that I was fitter and that I would play as many games as I could," Spink told ASW recently.

"Fitness is factor.

"As soon as I was out of plaster I decided I wanted to put in a big pre-season, working in the gym and doing a lot of running, and since then everything has gone well.

"(Coach) John Gardiner has helped a lot.

"He made sure the whole team put in a big pre-season.

"It was very hard and one of the best I've ever done.

"I really believe that we are one of the finest teams in the league now."

Preston's fitness campaign paid healthy dividends in round five of the season when it ran all over former top side Melbourne Croatia in the Second half and scooted away



before this season also came against Croatia in his Melbourne JUST days, it was a day to remember.

As for the spectacular Spink special, he says he was "very happy."

"I usually scored by getting little sniffs around goals," he explained.

"To beat a couple of players and score like that was a real thrill.

"It was a great day because you never expect to win any game 6-1, particularly against a good side like Melbourne Croatia."

Spink, who now has his sights well and truly on becoming a first choice Socceroo, says he'll be very disappointed if Preston doesn't prove to be top five material this season.

"The club has great support and they are just crying out for success," he said.

"I hope we can reward them this season."

AROUND THE NSL

Melbourne Croatia expect English striker Dale White to join them next week. The 22-year-old White will be here in time for the club's Round 9 clash with Marconi at Somers Street.

"Here is proof that the scheme works."

★★★

Peter Murray, the Apia striker, has decided to make Sydney his base instead of his home town of Newcastle.

He feels that the continual travelling is

holding back his first team career.

★★★

Roberto Vieri will be in charge of the Parramatta Melita side whilst coach Raul Gómez is in Argentina and Chile as assistant coach of the Australian under 17 Joeys.

Letter of the Week

WHAT an extraordinary game soccer is in this country.

Despite the fact that it is played by all ethnic groups (and why wouldn't it be — it's one of the few sports that can claim to be truly international?), the cream of our teams are based on mono-ethnic lines.

Even the names are outmoded. According to team sheets Anglo Saxons outnumbered Latin!

I can't imagine an Inter Milan Bavaria, in Italy, due to imported Germans; or a Wimbledon West Indies due to the high proportion of West Indians in the side.

Let's hope the Bradley Report fixes up this little anachronism.

To cap it all, every year an "Ethnic" World Cup is organised in Sydney.

N. Peacock
117 Del Mar Drive
Copacabana 2251

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — NOVEMBER 19, 1990 11

Sunshine GC loaded with stars

BY GREG BLAKE

DURING the dim, dark and not too distant past there were times when the only thing Sunshine George Cross diehards had to look forward to was the end-of-season Youth League finals.

Invariably the usually brilliant George Cross youngsters were in the play-offs and for four successive seasons, from 1986 to 1989, they played off in the Southern Division Grand Final.

The youth team's success, culminating in a memorable national title in 1989, was in stark contrast to the performances of the senior team.

A fleeting moment of short-lived glory in the '86 Southern Division finals was the best the seniors could muster.

Its failures have been well documented.

When there was a change of guard at the palace at the end of the 1989 season — youthful Ernie Merrick for the canny John Gardiner — it signalled an end to an era at the club.



JOHN GARDINER

When Gardiner went many of the hallmarks of his reign, included a healthy smattering of players who had managed to keep the club in the competition, but who had clearly peaked as NSL players and were not long-term options.

It was time for a change of direction.

Merrick deemed it time to give the all-conquering youngsters their chance in the big-time.



ERNEST MERRICK

Not that John Gardiner hadn't done his bit — remember a certain 15 year-old by the name of Markovski, or another youngster called Trimboli?

But it was Merrick who heralded in the new face of Sunshine.

No longer were the talented young ones to be brought on and sold off to keep the club solvent.

12 AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — NOVEMBER 19, 1990

And finally, perhaps, that change of direction is paying a healthy dividend for the western suburbs battler.

Season 1990/91 didn't start according to plan.

Club fans looked on dumbstruck as the side bumbled through its opening three games, and there was little doubt that things looked crook when mighty Marconi licked its chops and then proceeded to devour Sunshine by an embarrassing 6-1 scoreline in Round 2.

Skipper Sean Keogh — the oldest player on the books at Georgie at 29 — was the first to feel the wrath at the selection table.

In his place came another kid just out of nappies, 18 year old Frank Talia.

That bought to ten the number of senior experienced players at the club under 21 years of age, clearly more than any other side in the QNSL.

It was make-or-break time by round four when finally the youthful, exuberant and wonderfully exciting Sunshine youth academy broke the ice with a 4-2 win at Parramatta Melita.

By round six Sunshine was off the bottom of the table.

And while nobody dare suggest that the new look Sunshine is even close to reaching its potential yet, 11 goals in four games and equal second top place on the goalscoring charts at Round 6 suggests that the Reds are not only giving value for money, but can look forward to the future with some confidence.

from the under 20s to under 23s, Frank Talia, Troy Cranney and Jason Koliba have achieved under 20 status, whilst Vasco Trpevski and Jason Farrugia are under 17 squad members.

It goes without saying that Sunshine now has the youngest average aged squad in the QNSL.

The Skinner Reserve "department of youth" has only three players aged over 25, Keogh and 26 year olds Luciano Fabrizio and Ossie Latif.

John Waddell and Alan Roodhouse are both 24, Chris Ketsakidis, Derek Hunter and Dave McFarlane are 23, Paul Foster is 22.

David Clarkson along with Craig Foster have only just come of age.

The 20 year-olds are Hasler and Damian Mori, Athan Zacharias is 19, George Alevisos, Wayne Attard, Cranney, Kindtner, Koliba and Talia are just old enough to legally drink in a pub, whilst Mitch Cattermole is just 17.

It is interesting to compare Sunshine's squad to that of mighty Marconi.

Marconi's current squad's average age is 23.57 years, and each squad member have averaged 98.5 games at QUIT NSL level.

The Sunshine squad's average age is just 21.19 years and they boast around just 42.57 games each.

And Marconi is by no means the oldest team in the league.

The likes of Heidelberg and Adelaide City are currently pushing an average age of 25 for each player.

But statistics are meaningless, unless the players boast some ability.

Thankfully, the Sun-

for the first time in many years.

Club manager Gary Hasler takes pride in talking about the club's seven (and still counting) Aussie reps.

All of them are, naturally enough, under 21 years of age with Damian Mori and Gary Hasler in the under 23 squad, the remarkable Lorenz Kindtner progressing

Thankfully, the Sun-

"We're the department of youth, we've got the power."
— Alice Cooper 1978



DAMIAN MORI

shine fans can breath a sign of relief in the knowledge that these young guys cannot only play a bit, but that they'll be around for quite some time to come yet.

Here is a player-by-player guide to Sunshine's 1990 depart-



DEREK HUNTER

ment of youth

L O R E N Z K I N D T N E R: Clearly the dux of the class and class is what this midfielder shows in abundance. He is without doubt a future senior international. A player with pace, balance, vision and skill as well as the most exciting ingredient of all, instinctiveness.

Whilst most players are subject to behavioral conditioning which force them to exist within certain bounds of orthodoxy, Kindtner isn't cloistered by such restraints. He is clearly a very special player.

G A R Y H A S L E R: Hasler is set to become one of the real personalities of the game. He takes his apparently bubbling off field character on to the park with him, and always seems to enjoy every aspect of the game.

Hasler is tough and will mix it, he can hit a ball and his confidence and aggression are even more apparent after his Olympic squad exploits and a short stint with Leeds.

D A M I A N M O R I: A pacy and explosive defender in the mould of

Postecoglou or Jolevska. His experience as an attacking midfielder means he will get forward and have a crack at scoring if the opportunity presents itself.

His most obvious asset is speed, but there is no mistaking Mori's touch of class.

T R O Y C R A N N E Y: Cranney is an unpolished jewel, who appears to be getting better and better as he picks up the pace of the QNSL. Cranney is super-competitive and seems to have struck up a fine understanding with architect Kindtner.

A versatile player, Cranney, like many of his youthful teammates, boasts an impressive turn of pace.

F R A N K T A L I A: Is almost certain to lose his goalkeeping place to club skipper Sean Keogh, if and when the latter is judged to have regained form in the youth team. But how can Sunshine possibly drop a player who is showing every sign of being one of the best custodians around?

As a goalkeeper Talia is showing maturity beyond his years, and at just 18 is demonstrating his ability to play an assertive role behind the defence.

A T H A N Z A C H A R I A S: Zacharias is one of the youth team's top scorers, who is extremely quick and good at getting forward.

But according to Merrick his biggest problem is that he isn't regarded as an out-and-out striker, and he hasn't quite mastered the defensive skills to play in midfield.

J A S O N K O L I B A: Koliba has been out of action with injury but is certainly being groomed as the senior team's centre-half.

Koliba is a disciplined aggressive defender who is strong in the air and shows good skills on the deck.

G E O R G E A L E V I S O S: Alevisos is a tireless worker who is a real no frills player and isn't afraid to go in and win the hard ball.

Alevisos has had a number of chances to establish himself in the senior team and there might be a place for him, provided he can now take the next step and consistently play to potential.

W A Y N E A T T A R D: Attard managed a short run in the first team last season, but hasn't kicked on into the new season as yet.

A physically strong player, Attard has dropped in confidence after suffering with a troublesome hamstring.

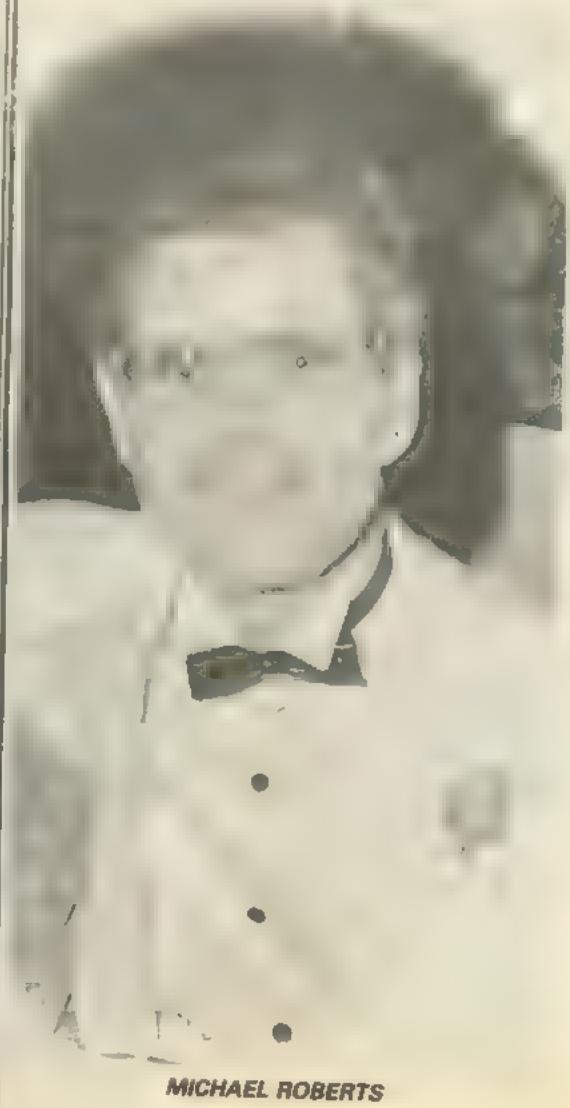
M I T C H C A T T E R M O L E: By Merrick's reckoning, young Cattermole is certainly a future first-teamer. An old-fashioned goal poacher, Cattermole might sometimes look lazy but inside the box he's as sharp as a tack when he gets a chance.

A resilient and brave goalscorer with his future in his hands.

Referee escapes death

Michael Roberts back in action

BY KEITH GILMOUR



MICHAEL ROBERTS

N O R E F E R E E I N T H E L E N G T H A N D B R E A D T H O F A U S T R A L I A was keener to get back on the park this year than Sydney's Michael Roberts.

And, after almost losing his life in a road accident and suffering a whole catalogue of injuries, he is back out there on the pitch.

The accident came right out of the blue.

On May 27 he headed a State League match at Seymour Shaw Park, Miranda, and stepped in his 250cc motorcycle for an expected uneventful trip home.

But just along the road a car turned across in front of him, bringing him down to a shuddering halt.

The resultant injuries included a punctured lung, ruptured liver and kidney, 12 fractured ribs, fractured scapula, clavicle and sacroiliac joint.

For 15 days his life hovered in the balance as he received intensive care in St George Hospital.

Roberts said: "The medical staff told me as I recovered that, had I not been as fit as I was at the time of the accident, I may well not have pulled through."

"My wife Gaye was a wonderful help as I lay helpless on my back."

"Morning and night those friendly faces at the hospital — and especially the referees who called — helped to pull me through."

"I counted 60 Get Well cards from fellow referees."

Michael Roberts was originally a referee on the Philips League panel.

He left in 1979 to complete a business degree at the University of New South Wales, and rejoined in 1985 and was allocated to NSL and State League fixtures.

He is now graded Group I.

In business he is employed by Citicorp Insurance Brokers, and is involved in general insurance for large commercial accounts.

After passing his referees' fitness test, he came back as fourth official for the Apia-Marconi game on October 21, and is now doing the middle in the NSL Youth League.

Roberts said: "I'm 47 now. I love refereeing and look forward to going through to compulsory retirement at 50."

"After that I aim to continue on in an active administrative capacity."

But, Michael, take care.

Those who are bitten by the motor bike bug must be constantly on their guard.

Dutch treat for Fred de Jong

MAKING the leap to the professional soccer ranks with Fortuna Sittard has worked a treat for All White striker Fred de Jong.

The former Marconi striker has been tossed in at the deep end by Fortuna, currently placed handily near the top of the Dutch First Division, playing in all their games so far and scoring twice.

But de Jong has come through his baptism of fire to proclaim after four months: "It's been the best move of my career."

While he admits he struggled in the first few games, de Jong says he's now getting used to life in the Dutch First Division. ("It's really hard. It's more physical than anything in Australia or New Zealand and much faster.

"Before I got here I fought international play was pretty quick, but here the club football seems a lot faster. That's the hardest thing to get used to.

"If you don't play one or two touch then you get tackled," he said.

And he's now coming up against a much more difficult type of defender: "They are a lot smarter than everyone in New Zealand and Australia, they know when to tackle.

"They push you just when you get the ball, your first touch isn't very good and they can get the tackle in."

The feedback he's been getting from the players and coach has been encouraging, said



FRED DE JONG

"They are happy with the way I am progressing. The team is doing really well and everyone is happy with the way I am playing. So as long as I keep playing well, they are happy."

But he adds he has still not played as well as he thinks he can.

"Slowly my technique is improving and I am becoming more aware of what is going on around me. It's just coming along slowly."

De Jong said his technique at the moment was inferior to his Dutch colleagues primarily because: "They have probably played three or four

times more soccer as I have by the time they are 20, whereas I am 26."

Now, after three months training twice a day, de Jong says he can do a lot more things with a ball than he could when he was playing in Australia.

Asked if more training was the way forward for other Kiwis, he said: "The New Zealand guys are good enough for the training they do. But they should step up their training. You have to touch a ball every day."

De Jong said Fortuna are a very friendly club, which has helped him settle down to the Dutch way of life.

"Everyone helps me feel really welcome. They are really good to me. At first when I was not playing that well, it would have been easy for them to be very negative, but the players and the coach were always positive."

Although he's training twice a day, de Jong said he's got a lot of spare time on his hands.

He spends a lot of that time "fooling around" at the club or quietly at home.

Despite not being able to speak Dutch yet, de Jong's been able to get along because almost everyone speaks English.

But he still wants to pick up the lingo because the Dutch are very touched when a foreigner talks in their native tongue, he said.

Fiancee Maria is attending Dutch lessons, and de Jong said he's learning off her.

— courtesy
NEW ZEALAND
SOCCER EXPRESS

Wanted — Don Bradmans of Australian football

TUNED into the Don Bradman 'special' on ABC Television last week, and how special it was to watch this great sportsman talking about his life.

As one watched the old films of his young years when he set new standards in his sport — which no human being in the history of cricket before or since has ever matched — one's thoughts went to soccer's John Kosmina.

One has mentioned this before, but at this time it seems appropriate to mention it again.

As coach of the Adelaidie Hellas in the National League, with the 19 year old Kosmina the star of our team, I sat down with him in his hotel room the night before our away game with Sydney Olympic.

He was the best young soccer player whom I had encountered in Australia to that time or since.

"John, would you like to become the Don Bradman of Australian soccer?"

He laughed, a little embarrassed at my words.

He never took up the challenge, though he did become an excellent player and captained his country.

He, too, is regularly on ABC television these days and doing a good job.

How far could he have gone in soccer?

How far could some



JOHN KOSMINA

rained desire to become one of the world's top players?

I was wondering about young David Seal the other day, as one noticed his name among the substitutes for Marconi in the last few games.

Raul Blanco and Les Scheinflug, who have worked with the lad, have told me that he is a top player.

His goal scoring record suggests he may be among the nation's best, even now.

Yet here he is languishing, with the return of Vince Nastevski, and even before Nastevski came back onto the scene.

Berti Mariani paid \$12,000 for John Markovski but had to pay \$35,000 for David, nevertheless he is preferring John to David at team selection time.

This is despite the fact that Markovski is struggling somewhat to get in his new team.

The return of goal scoring form of David Lowe may be all to do with the pressure for places now being experienced up front for Marconi strikers.

David, though also a very good player, is another who appears to me to have not quite realised his excellent talents.

This, of course, is not too easy to do in our part time set up, where many players have to keep their minds on their jobs as well as their soccer.

On the other hand, Bradman never wanted to be full time in cricket, and wasn't.

Bradman looked so

small, in the modern film sections shown by the ABC, compared to current players.

People do become taller, it would seem, each generation. Gerry Francis, the England international midfielder who came to Australia to play as a guest for St George, told me he had bought an Olde English mansion.

Short as he was, he said he had to have the doors heightened, most of which were not even 152 centimetres high.

Soccer is not really suited to really tall people.

The limit seems to be about 198 centimetres.

Thus soccer may lose many sections of the population in future to big people sports like basketball, gridiron, league, union, Aussie rules.

Yugoslavs are tall, which explains their success in basketball, though they still retain their co-ordination for soccer.

The burly Dutch are also a formidable opponent on the soccer field and despite their height still play soccer well.

Ozcan Celik, one of my club's strikers, is currently trialling in Holland and told me by phone that he found their physical presence quite awesome.

Nevertheless, there will be sufficient players to be found suited to soccer, especially here in Australia with the influx of Asians, and before them those from South America.

Like Jock Stein, former great coach of Glasgow Celtic and Scotland, I like smaller players because of their agility on the ground.

The answer obviously is to get a balance of both physiques spread through your team.

If Celik made it in Holland, probably in one of the lower leagues, we could possibly only receive some \$20,000 transfer fee in compensation.

The highest transfer fee to date, I believe, was the \$200,000 paid for Chris Kalantzis to Sydney Olympic from Greek club Panathinaikos.

If the Bradley Report is put in place fully by our State organisations and the national body, our grounds and general standards of all our professional clubs may allow more of our players to fulfil their goals here in Australia.

That is a great goal in itself — remembering that all things are possible, given the will.



DAVID SEAL

of our current young stars go in soccer?

The answer is — as far as they seek to go.

I spoke to Richard Alagich the other night while watching train-

ing at St George Stadium, and asked him if he had a million dollar player among his Sydney Academy of Soccer boys.

"Perhaps a half a million dollar player," was the smiling reply.

Frank Arok says he has a goal to raise a million dollar player out of the scheme.

Is that rhetoric or a true goal? With Arok, probably the latter.

Certainly, the key



ADJJA

DARIO KRNCVIC: he scored a Belgian league goal for FC Liege last week but may be out this weekend with a bruised toe.

— courtesy
NEW ZEALAND
SOCCER EXPRESS

Chit Chat... Chit Chat



Pictured with Pelé is René Coluzzo, who was a rising Marconi star and a Socceroo squad member when he headed off to establish himself in Italy. The insert shows him as a youngster with Pelé at the jam-packed Sydney Sports Ground back in 1972, when Pelé toured here with his Brazilian club, Santos.

Parramatta Melita coach Raul Blanco is convinced that the players who turned out in the NSW State League during the winter lost nothing from the experience. "In fact they gained quite a lot," Blanco explained. "Hugo Giminez, Alfredo Barrios, Marshall Soper, Craig Mason and Aytak Genç are all senior players and lose out from having a five month lay-off. In Greg Brown's case, he only

had a short spell in State League."

★★★

Jarek Nowicki, on loan to Parramatta Melita from NSW State League outfit Polonia, represented Poland at both Olympic Games and Youth levels. In addition he played over 150 first division matches.

★★★

Iron man Craig Mason could be out of Parramatta Melita's lineup

for another week or so yet. It's a toss up whether he has had a lower back problem or a hamstring problem, but he is well on the road to recovery.

★★★

David Batten and Peter Murray have been "doing their time" in Apia Leichhardt's under 19 team. Batten recently scored twice for the youth team, which is leading coach Manfred Schaefer to reconsider him for a first team place.

★★★

general manager Peter Russell explained that the rules had been changed to conform with current European practice. "A suspended first team player can now play in the second team whilst under suspension," he stated.

★★★

Best wishes to Apia Leichhardt secretary Harry Ambrose for better health in future. He faces the need for heart bypass surgery shortly.

★★★

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MARSHALL SOPER

It was surprising to see Parramatta Melita stars Marshall Soper and Hugo Giminez appearing for the club's youth team whilst under suspension. However NSL

Marcelo Toscanelli is likely to be a visa player on Sydney Croatia's books. Toscanelli missed out on a place with Sydney Olympic when Gary Phillips returned from Hong Kong to fill a contract spot. A place

became available at Croatia when Chilean Hector Perez failed to meet coach Tony Vrza's specifications.

★★★

Judging by the quality of proposals being put by public relations sources to NSL clubs, it is vital that the ASF-NSL promotions/media man, when appointed, take a hand in arrangements. Overall co-ordination will be needed to deal with some of the ordinary propositions.

★★★

Sydney Olympic are struggling gamely to obtain Canterbury Council land at Riverwood to build a social club and football ground. The difficulty is to gain ownership of the land to obtain security for a bank loan for the club and other improvements.

★★★

Rivals soon could see a 'different' Adelaide City. The difference should come in style and attitude, according to front man Joe Mullen.

"The players know we have got to do better," said Mullen. "We all are out to do well for each other." Mullen said coach Zoran Matic had been working on a new play, that could see his attacking midfielders in the key role as goalscorers. "We have been doing something different at training and it will take time to blend in," said Mullen. "But practice makes perfect and with training I'm sure it will reach fruition later in the season. It's always nice to get on the scoresheet yourself but, really, it doesn't matter who gets the goal." New attacking routes are being developed, giving City new options in offence. That is enhanced by the attacking flair and skills of such players as Socceroos Aurelio Vidmar, Ernie Tapai and Charley Villani.

★★★

It is fair to wonder how much of Sydney Croatia's recovery after losing so many star players has been due to the steadiness and skill of central defenders, Ned Zelek and Velimir Kupresak. Added to that have been some sterling displays by 30 year old, Ivan Perkovic.

★★★

ST GEORGE supremo Frank Arok is tearing his hair out over the sterility of his attack so far in the QNSL season. Says Frank: "I can't say anything nice about my attack at this stage. I can't find an answer. If I could, I would be at Arsenal or Liverpool..."

★★★

ROBBIE SLATER has climbed to equal third place in the French Second Division Player of the Year standings after another brilliant display for Lens when they crushed competition leaders Red Star Paris 4-0 last week. Slater made a goal and scored one after dribbling past three defenders.

★★★

WOLLONGONG Macedonia's number one priority after slipping towards the foot of the NSL ladder is to sign Sutherland's Grant Bard, who scored 12 goals while

playing alongside John Kosmina and Graham Arnold in the NSW State League. The club is also likely to sign talented young Melbourne JUST midfielder Sasha Bevincovski, who has been given a free clearance by the Victorian Soccer Federation.

★★★

Abbas Saad and Alastair Edwards' Singapore team has reached the semi-finals of the Malaysian League where their opponents in a home-and-away tie will be Jaboré or Kadak. Edwards has scored 12 goals to date and Saad 10. Saad has very much become the hero of Singapore soccer fans.

★★★

Remember the days when AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY and other newspapers used to whip themselves into a frenzy, trying to list all the Australian players currently appearing in Europe? Whilst there

★★★

knee reconstruction started training last week but will need two months of preparation before he can even think of challenging sensations! John Filat for a starting spot.

★★★

MELITA coach Raul Blanco predicts that new signing Jarek Nowicki will come close to winning the John Warren Medal this season as the NSL's players' coach as Player of the Year. Nowicki, 29, certainly has the pedigree. Apart from playing 150 First Division matches in Poland, he represented the country at World Youth Cup level, and gained Olympic honours as well.

★★★

Wally of the Mont award goes to veteran sports writer Alan Clarkson now covering the Australian rugby league team's tour of northern England and southern France. Commenting on the less than imaginative test coverage by the BBC Clarkson boasts that Australian TV channels are light years ahead of the rest in their coverage of rugby league. What "rest" may we ask? Rugby league overseas is only covered by British and New Zealand TV. The French gave up on the sport years ago...

★★★

Adelaide City veteran Sergio Melta has no intention of retiring in the immediate future. The AdCity skipper, still only 31 although he has played in the



Pelé and Ferenc Puskas meet again — at St George Stadium.

is a big difference between chronicling the movements of the top stars compared with those who are simply trialling, the full list would now be very close to astounding.

★★★

ST GEORGE goalkeeper Mike Gibson, who has been out for 15 months with a



Pools dividends increase

AUSTRALIAN Soccer Pools, operating on the British season results, have been building up towards another large payout.

The estimated first division pool for this week-end (week 277) is \$550,000.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Neil McGachey set for Birkalla Eagles

FORMER Adelaide Hellas supremo in the NSL, Neil McGachey looks sure to coach Birkalla Eagles again next season.

"I sat down and talked with my boss on Friday and, as a result of that, I have made myself available for the Birkalla job for next year," said McGachey.

The coach, who is sure to get a vote of confidence and carry on, met players on Sunday to determine just who will be at the club next season.

But former State midfielder Paul Higgins has been transferred.

"Birkalla at this stage cannot meet just what the player wants and we felt it better to let Paul go. Hopefully, he can join another club and eventually achieve his long-term aim of playing in the NSL," said McGachey.

Birkalla will try to consolidate its playing personnel position before fixing up its full coaching team, but there are several options on offer in what could be an exciting development year.

ONE interested reader has posed a question about State League clubs finding money to spend on players while their grounds and facilities chronically are in need of updating.

"Some clubs really



NEIL MCGACHEY

need to take a look at themselves," said the reader. "They are thinking about short term solutions to long-term problems.

"There are many clubs in SA who look only at improving the playing side of their set-up while their grounds and amenities do not attract anyone to their games.

"Even basic amenities, in many cases, are not available. Women are hardly adequately catered for at many grounds.

"Why don't clubs spend more money on fans rather than band aiding their playing side?"

GIANTS Adelaide Hellas and Adelaide City look the only sides with question marks over their coaching positions for next season's Foundation SA League First Division.

The Hellas position could be clearer with

the club's election of officers.

Club Skipper Alby Kidd finished the season leading the side into the playoffs with Neil Bonnar his assistant.

But Kidd looks unlikely to want to continue in the role next season.

Bugsy Nyskohus did an excellent job steering City's youngsters through last season with frequent, disturbing calls on his side for NSL duties.

He looked out of a job when City said it would quit the State League. That move has been rescinded but Bugsy, one of City's greatest servants, still is in limbo over his role at the club.



ALBY KIDD

"They are not learning anything beating sides 4-0 and 5-0 and

seems sure to retain his role at Birkalla Eagles while Tommy Preston, after steering Blackwood into Division One, looks certain to lead it there.

The other settled coaching positions are: Croatia: Donald Campbell, Beograd; Uros Zivkovic and John Kamleitner, Modbury; John Nyskohus, Para Hills; Martyn Crook, Salisbury; Bob Wincer, Lion; Mike Kavalaceni, Polonia. Stan Cygan and Azzurri: Jan Kiernan.

MERCURIAL Charley Villani is back sweating it out to give Adelaide City a NSL boost.

Midfielder Villani and the club have not been happy with his form and coach Zoran Matic believes he needs to shed more kilos to return to his best.

"He is carrying an extra stone on his back and that is no good," said Matic. "We want him to train twice a day, two days a week and another three sessions with the team so that's seven in all."

"He is too valuable to lose. If we can bring him back from the dead he costs us nothing. To replace him would cost \$35,000. He knows he needs to work and that is what he is doing."

"He is a big boy and he sometimes looks lazy but he trains hard. There is a lot of pressure on him all the time, but he has not been happy with how he has played and will do something about it."

BUSTLING Billy Wright is back.

The big Kiwi striker ventured down to the Port for Sunday's soccer revolution.

But he quickly received a call to action and banged in two goals.

Wright is back staying in SA and wants to play here next season after spending most of last year with Morwell Falcons.

NOARLUNGA had VIP visitors on Saturday at a crucial fund-raising spring fair.

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles were special guests for the day, which featured rock bands, children's talent shows and stalls.

WEST Beach, one of the proudest clubs in Amateur League, has started tentative arrangements for a special 25th anniversary function next year.

Neil McGachey



CHARLIE VILLANI

Club stalwart Peter Beasley would be pleased to hear from old Beachies willing to attend what surely would be a memorable party.

Meanwhile, John Pope was voted this year's best and fairest player. Chris Lowe was most improved and players' player of the year.

Brahma Lodge, in Division Two amateur, has taken the novel step of appointing father and son John and Jack McCormack as joint coaches next season.

POLONIA striker John Christopoulos has joined Adelaide City on a two-year contract. He was joint leading scorer last year in the State League with 14 goals.

ADELAIDE Croatia hopes to secure class import Drazan Kekez for next season. Kekez, 22, impressed clubmen in training late last season and officials now are preparing paperwork to lodge with the Immigration Department.

Utility man Kekez would be flown out of the country to return on a sportsman's visa. Croatia is confident he will be here in time to start the new league season. His skill would give Croatia another big lift.

Meanwhile, Wojtek Jogoda has come to terms with Croatia and will play there again next season. He and midfielder Mladen Putanec are visa players so Kekez would take the club up to its limit. Croatia is planning to start a youth development squad for kids in the 15-18 age group next season. This will be a very professionally run scheme which will develop skills and enhance the attitude of the young players," said secretary Kario Zagar. Any coach interested should contact Kario Zagar or president Tony Kulic at the Croatia club or through a Federation contact number.

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Neil McGachey

JOHN NYSKOHUS

FORMER Australian amateur team coach Jock Coull will lead West Beach back into the First Division of amateur league next season in the club's 25th anniversary year. Coull, a former State team player and coach, succeeds Wally Bojczuk who took Beach to the Second Division championship last year but cannot continue coaching because of business commitments. Beach starts training on Thursday, February 7 under Coull who has wide experience in amateur soccer with Macedonia, Parafield Gardens, Salisbury East and Croydon Park.

ADELAIDE Croatia has told colourful Danish star Jesper Sorensen it cannot fit him into its plans for 1991. The club has its quota of visa players. But Sorensen, who played here previously with Croatia and Adelaide City, still is very keen to return to SA to play. He has been playing in his native Denmark since leaving Australia.

FORMER Soccerroo John Nyskohus is back in soccer as coach of Modbury. He succeeds Jim Muldoon



Mladen Putanec — visa player.

"If the club has a side in the State League I'd definitely like to be involved. But I have not heard anything yet. It is up to

with the pressure on the senior side they are not getting a foot in the door there either.

"The youngsters, I'm sure, would have



BUGSY NYSKOHUS

the committee," said Nyskohus, who enjoyed his time in charge last season.

learned much more playing against older, experienced players in the State League."

Neil McGachey

Sermannini to stay on

BY GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA has appointed last year's coach, Tom Sermannini for another 12-month term.

Sermannini said he had met members of the NSW League club's committee and had come to an agree-

ment which will see him at the reigns during the 1991 season.

"The next thing to do is sit down with (director of soccer) Mirko Skrojic and work out our playing requirements for next season," he said.

The appointment means that by the end



TOM SERMANNINI

of his term Sermannini will have become the longest serving coach in the 13-year history of the club

He joined the then Canberra Arrows as a player in 1984, taking over as player-coach in January, 1988

He stepped down to the assistant's role of the end of that year in favour of former Socceroo boss Jimmy Shoulder but took over again in May 1989 after Shoulder accepted a full time position with the English Football Association.

Sermannini's assistant, Ivan Gruicic, who has steered the reserve team to two consecutive grand finals, has also been re-appointed

PERSONALITY PLAYER



MIKE HOLLIFIELD (Wollongong City)

FULL NAME: Michael Hollifield.
CLUB: Wollongong City.
BIRTHPLACE & DATE: Stockton Eng, 2.5.61.
MARRIED: Yes.

NICKNAME: Holly.

OCCUPATION: Footballer.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Southbank AFC.

FAVOURITE GROUND: Brandon Park.
MOST MEMORABLE GAME: Debut for Wolverhampton Wanderers at White Hart Lane.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Injuries.
FAVOURITE POSITION: Defence.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf, tennis.

FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak

FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Cheers.

BEST FRIEND: Rob Giraldi.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: John Barnwell

BEST FRIEND IN SOCCER: David Green.
ADVICE TO YOUNG PLAYERS: Listen to coaches and work hard.

— KEITH GILMOUR

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INTER MONARO TO JOIN ACT LEAGUE

BY GRAHAM COOKE

INTER Monaro has officially ended its membership of the NSW League and applied for readmittance to the ACT competition.

A meeting of club officials drafted a letter of submission to the ACT Soccer Federation which reached the ACTSF office in Hackett just before the deadline for new club applications on October 31.

At the same time the general manager of the NSW Soccer Federation, Ian Holmes, was informed that Monaro wished to relinquish the league membership it has held for 11 of the last 13 seasons.

The hard decisions, taken in the light of falling attendances as a result of two lean years in the competition, were taken in the previous week. The meeting which followed, which included acting seniors president John McDonald, acting juniors president Wayne Graham and publicity officer Trish McDonald, was to formalise the correspondence.

Graham says the aim is for Monaro to be a vigorous member of the ACT League, where it last played in the late 1970s. "Our home base will continue to be the Marco Polo Ground and the club's offices will still be based at the Marco Polo Club," he said.

"The next stage is a five-year plan aimed at establishing a catchment area where we will be responsible for encouraging people to

play soccer from munis through to seniors.

"And as part of that we are going to help with the promotion of junior teams in Bungendore and Braidwood."

Graham said Monaro will also look at sharing the Marco Polo ground with other clubs in the ACT League.

He expected a meeting to be called and officers elected "within a couple of weeks".

The president of the ACT Soccer Federation, Ron Watkins, while stressing his executive has yet to formulate a view on the application, says he feels it is in the interests of soccer that Monaro should be accepted.

"In my view Monaro's decision is a reflection of the enthusiasm generated by the current review of ACT soccer," he said.

"The club has never ceased to be an integral part of the code in this area and should be welcomed back as part of the soccer family."

The return of Monaro to the ACT League will cause some headaches for officials seeking to compile next season's fixture list.

Under normal circumstances, the Defence Academy, which finished bottom of the eight-team competition, would be relegated, with second-division champion Downer Olympic taking its place.

Olympic, which has sunk considerable time and money into its promotion bid, is unlikely to take kindly to any suggestion that its

hard-won place should be given to Monaro, nor is there an indication that any of the other seven clubs are ready to give up their first-division status.

The matter is further complicated by an

application from Griffith to rejoin the competition it left four seasons ago. League chairman Don Rushan said the Riverina-based club had made its initial application earlier this year.

MONARO JUNIORS CONCERN

BY GRAHAM COOKE

He said this was worrying for the junior club.

"Without the seniors we are unable to identify a clear career path for our young players."

However, a representative of the Marco Polo Social Club which owns the ground on which Inter Monaro plays, reiterated an early undertaking that Monaro's debts with NSW will be paid.

"The Marco Polo club has given this undertaking to the NSW Federation and it will be discharged," the representative said.

"The club would expect to clear the debt by the end of this year or the beginning of next."

"However, we are a little disappointed that the Federation continues to press us when there are other clubs in the competition which owe as much, and more, than we do."

The representative pointed out the Marco Polo Club and Inter Monaro were separate companies, and that Marco Polo had not supplied the football club with any direct financial assistance since the two split in 1986.

"But we have maintained the ground for soccer, and it will still be available for use."

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National Youth League (South Division)

BY ROY HAY

SUNSHINE George Cross crashed at home to Altona Gate 4-1 in the match of Round Six of the National Youth League (Southern Division) at Skinner Reserve.

Altona Gate had a very strong team out on the day and took the lead through Simon Micevski who poked the ball home after a scramble in the first minutes.

It was 2-0 at the break and Altona Gate powered away with further goals by Zlate Markovski, Robert Trajkovski and Peter Nicovski.

The shock of the round was Melbourne Croatia Colts' 4-0 demolition of South Melbourne Hellas at Somers Street, played once again on a small outside pitch.

Jani Suric with two, Stejpan Silic and John Ivelja gave the Colts their first win in the NYL South.

Hellas hit the post twice and three of the Colts' goals came in the last ten minutes, but nothing can take away from its first triumph.

Adelaide City kept up a cracking pace with an 8-2 in at John Cain Reserve over Northcote City.

Even without Ross Aloisi, City kept banging in the goals with two each to Joe Barbaro, Carlo Tallaora and Michael Brooks and singles to Enzo Perre and John Christopoulos.

Northcote never gave up and Arthur Robotis and George Sidiropoulos scored in reply.

Preston Makedonia and Caulfield City fought out a 1-1 draw at Connor Reserve.

It was an eventful game with five yellow cards and two penalties to Caulfield, one of which was brilliantly saved by Lou

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Soccer Goalkeeper: A Guide for Players and Coaches

By Joe Lubacher Ph.D and Gene Klein



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out of season

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This celebration story traces his career, relives his greatest moments, and looks behind the public face of one of England's favourite goalkeepers.

In it he talks frankly about life between the posts, about the memorable saves he has made and his thoughts on the next World Cup.

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THE BOBBY CHARLTON STORY ENGLAND'S ALL TIME TOP GOALSCORER



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In this action packed video Bobby takes you through his incredible life story and looks back at many of the most spectacular moments from his career.

From his humble family upbringing through to the glory of the Busby Babes, the 1966 World Cup and 1968 European Cup triumphs, it's a remarkable success story.

Also included are tributes from Sir Matt Busby, Denis Law and Bobby Robson.

The true story of a footballing genius.
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Nat Youth League N

A Spirited draw in Newcastle

BY PAUL GOODWIN

ADAMSTOWN Rosebuds and Highfields Azzurri enjoyed a typical derby game at Valentine Park in Newcastle, with the former claiming a point from a 1-1 draw, with a goal in the second minute of stoppage time.

The two sides struggled against a stiff southerly crossfield breeze and Highfields hit the lead in the 26th minute.

Ricky Eucci set up Craig Penfold with a through ball and Penfold did the rest.

Paul Seurant, who scored the equaliser the previous week, should have made it 2-0 in the 43rd, but from 10 metres could not finish off the cross by Dean Adamson.

Adamstown made the second half theirs and also were unable to capitalise on their superiority.

Con Saufouris in the 62nd minute let Highfields' goalie Lee Archer off the hook when put through, but a back header by Steven Kacev was disallowed by referee Neil Jones in the 65th, much to Rosebuds' displeasure.

Keiran Harris nearly put Highfields beyond the reach of Adamstown when he hit the bar in the 70th, but Troy Radford brought his Rosebuds their season's first point in the dying stages with a simple lob after a cross from the left.

Marconi shocked the unbeaten AIS boys when they took an early lead at their Bosley Park headquarters, showing better form than their previous 7-3 defeat at the hands of St George would indicate.

Ironically, it was Stephen Corica, a member of the Marconi senior squad, who did the damage. Marconi had taken a 23rd minute lead through Anthony Messina whose tidy finish to a ball from the left put his side in the right mood to make a good impression.

In an even game it took the AIS until the 82nd minute to draw level.

A mix-up between Marconi's keeper Schwarzer and his defender Jeff Souza saw Ante Moric gain possession and deliver a cross for Corica to finish easily.

Corica scored the winner with a solo run five minutes into stop-

page time, after running through from the half-way line to beat the advancing goalie.

The strong wind at St George Stadium played a big part in the 3-3 draw between Olympic and Sydney Croatia.

The home side was 3-0 at the break, with the wind at their backs but surrendered the advantage in the second half when the wind favoured Croatia.

A 12th minute corner from the right was finished off by George Sorras and a 21st minute corner from the left was volleyed in by defender Nick Plataniotis.

Pabio Cardozo curled a shot past the keeper and hit the top corner in the 35th after a good build-up.

Gary Meier was exposed on each of the three occasions that Croatia scored their after-interval goals.

Peter Bazdaric beat the ageless goalie to a long through ball for the first but defender Plataniotis' back pass deceived Meier for number two in the 82nd.

Gabriel Gonzales headed the equaliser from 15 metres when he beat Meier to a cross from the left by Andrew French in the 88th.

Melita and Wollongong City played a 0-0 draw at South Granville, while Wollongong Macedon went down 1-3 to Apia at Brandon Park.

Apia took a very early lead through David Batten, who is pressing a claim for a first team spot, and they went further ahead through Michael Reda.

Borce Popovski managed to pull a goal back for the locals, but the prolific Batten scored his second goal of the day in the closing stages to send the Apia team supporters home happy.

It was the second week in a row that Batten, a recent signing from Croatia, has scored twice in the one game.

Results: Highfields Azzurri 1 (Penfold) Adamstown Rosebuds 1 (Radford), Marconi 1 (Messina) AIS 2 (Corica 2), Sydney Olympic 3 (Sorras, Plataniotis, Cardozo) Sydney Croatia 3 (Bazdaric, Plataniotis og, Gonzales), Parramatta Melita 0 Wollongong City 0, Wollongong Macedon 1 (Popovski) Apia Leichhardt 3 (Batten 2, Reda).

Australian
Soccer
Weekly
(02) 660 2033

Fans frightened by fracas at two Pelé turnouts

BY KEN GILMOUR

AUSTRALIAN Soccer Federation chairman John Constantine has refuted claims that his organisation was responsible for the mayhem that took place at the public appearances of world superstar Pelé in Sydney.

The offices of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation were flooded with complaints over the handling of Pelé's appearance at the Sydney Football Stadium, prior to the dinner in his honour which was designed to raise funds for the Australian Olympic Games Fund.

And, according to NSW Amateur general manager Cec Bucello, "We would have had a lot more (complaints), except for the fact that our telephone lines were completely jammed."

Mr Constantine was queried on any ASF involvement, following the public disquiet, which followed on concerns over safety and security at St George Stadium on the Saturday night appearance of the soccer wizard.

Mr Constantine said: "I was unimpressed by the way things were conducted, and that was a first hand impression, because I was at St George Stadium on Saturday night.

"We were advised of the book launch by Weldon International, but as chairman of the ASF I did not receive an invitation to any function.

"We thought it appropriate however to take a table at the Monday night dinner.

"The whole affair was not ours, and I don't see how any flack can be directed at us.

"Certainly, when our promotions man is appointed, he won't be involved in book promotions."

Criticism was also directed at the ASF for bidding \$3,000 for some Pelé memorabilia.

Mr Constantine said: "Some low prices had been paid for the first articles.

"I told Australian Olympic Federation secretary John Coates that things would have to be improved, and started bidding for a Pelé shirt at \$3,000.

"The item realised at least \$8,000, and that wouldn't have happened had I not started things off.

"If my bid had won out, I would have had



An angry Frank Arok removes spectators from the playing area at St George Stadium during Pelé's hectic appearance — STEVE GOSCH photo.

to put my hand in my own pocket, as it would not have been a responsibility of the Australian Soccer Federation."

Australian Soccer Weekly received its share of complaints from the public over the handling of the two Pelé appearances at soccer events.

A typical one was from Mrs Lorraine Cibilic, who was at St George.

"People followed Pelé around the field. They brought him up into the stand, and then couldn't get him down to kick off."

"I saw children fighting for air to breath in the crush."

"The PA system could not be heard properly, and a lot of people were frightened."

"We go everywhere to see soccer, but this time I have to say that those who stayed away were the lucky ones."

"On top of that, people were standing in the aisles, and often you couldn't see what was going on."

"One other feature worth mentioning was the dirtiness of the grandstand seats."

"Surely a hose could be put to them to clean them up."

A disgruntled parent from the Sutherland area added his voice, this time concerning the disorganisation at the Sydney Football Stadium.

"Kids turned up in busloads and in cars from as far away as the Macarthur district, Penrith and the Central Coast."

"They came early, and had to wait until 7.15pm to hear the NSW Fire Brigade Band and see the marching girls."

"Pelé appeared, there was no introductions and pandemonium reigned as hundreds of kids left the seating to mob him."

"He only stayed for

about six minutes and was off to the dinner.

"The pre-event hype stated that the children would receive a drink and a McDonald's voucher. Nothing of the sort happened."

"I saw Rob Wheatley doing his best to organise matters, but what he could accomplish was limited."

"The video was at the northern end, where it was difficult

to see."

"My impression was that the whole exercise was a marketing tool, and you could say no more for it than that."

"So, even if it wasn't the fault of the soccer administration, the public ended up with a nasty taste in its mouth, in place of the expected wholesome flavour that the presence of the unmatched Pelé should have engendered."

Twice within three days inadequate protection was provided for the superstar, and people's desire to get near the world's greatest ever player meant that many others received only a glimpse of him on the night.

Many did not get to see him at all.

The chaos that took place left players and officials furious and with justified feeling that they had been ripped off, and that the

Olympic seeking ground project at Riverwood

BY TED BURROWS OF AAC



GEORGE PASHALIS

GEORGE Pashalis is a man with a vision of an Olympic style complex in Sydney's south western suburbs.

The Olympic plan is linked with the Sydney Olympic Soccer Club where Pashalis has just been re-elected for a further two years as president.

"My plan is to develop an area at Riverwood in conjunction with Canterbury Council which will be a sports area including a soccer ground, tennis, squash and other facilities appropriate for a community project," said Pashalis.

"I'm more interested in where we'll be in 30 years time, not just today."

"What I'm trying to do should have been done 30 years ago when everyone was chasing titles and not worrying about the future."

"Financially, Sydney Olympic has always been a struggler but we've shown in the past few years we are competent managers, so I'm sure we'll get there."

Pashalis knows the road ahead will be hard and long, and that the club will require help from its supporters.

He does not believe he will be president when the project is completed, and is more interested in giving a direction for the club to follow.

"A lot of initial

work at the ground will be voluntary but we will still have to come up with money," he said.

The Robert Wheatley Column

Fiasco for Sydney juniors

The cream of New South Wales' most successful junior teams during the 1990 season, who assembled at the Sydney Football Stadium for the welcome to Pele last Monday, were served up an extremely raw deal.

The events on the night left over 500 players and officials distraught and with a very empty feeling in their stomachs.

The reasons behind this promotional disaster stem from the lack of security given to Pele, together with the actions of several selfish supporters.

Twice within three days inadequate protection was provided for the superstar, and people's desire to get near the world's greatest ever player meant that many others received only a glimpse of him on the night.

Many did not get to see him at all.

The chaos that took place left players and officials furious and with justified feeling that they had been ripped off, and that the

night had been a total waste of time.

Having co-ordinated the entry of the players on to the Stadium and waited for nearly two hours for Pele's arrival, the ten minute fracas that eventually took place left me feeling stunned and disappointed.

The Amateurs office was flooded the following day with

kids, who must be bitterly disappointed.

"Weldons and I (Pam Seaborn) will be meeting in the next couple of days to work out how we can in some way try to make it up to the kids."

"Contact will be made by the organisers with each one of the clubs involved and I am anticipating that team members will hopefully end up with something after what they endured."

But this will be small change for a large group of disillusioned people.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUES

Round 6

at 11.11.90

NORTHERN DIVISION

Sydney 1 (Vic) S.A.S.
0, St George 7 (Kakakos 2, Chantar 2, Freeston, Zelidman Asperinos) Marconi 3 (Lopez 2, Cami), AIS 1 (Radeck) Sydney Olympic 1 (Cardozo), Agila Leichhardt 2 (Batten 2) Nihilfieds Azurri 2 (Harris, Bucci), Adamstown Rosebud 0 Melita Eagles 3 (o.g. Super).

WOMEN READY FOR THE SWedes

A major women's international series in Sydney and Canberra next year has moved a step closer with the news that Swedish club champion Malmö had accepted an invitation to tour Australia.

Malmö, which completed the triple of national knock-out cup, league cup and league championship with a 2-0 win over Oxback, has faxed Australian Women's Soccer Association executive director Heather Reid with the news it will be coming to this country on January 25.

Now Reid is waiting on confirmation from Danish club Fortuna that it will also join in a three-team tournament with the Australian national side.

"Whatever Fortuna decides we will go ahead with the series with matches in Sydney on January 27 and 29 and in Canberra on February 1 and 3," Reid said

— GRAHAM COOKE

SOUTHERN DIVISION

St Melbourne 1 (Tzimouras) Geelong City 1 (Radic), Melbourne Crocias 1 (Ivajla) Altona Gate 2 (Trajkovski, Slobodanovski), Sunshine GC 3 (Catherine 2, Zicheras) Adelaide City 3 (Gustella 2, Taliadra), Northcote City 0 Caulfield City 1 (Alkakos), Preston Macedonia 3 (Bulikas, Nanov, Emoravski) Crocias 0, Brighton 3 (Manopoulos, Nickas, Tsoukalas) Springvale City 0, St Melbourne Colts 1 (Ireland) Heidelberg Uni 1 (Papadopoulos).

	P	W	B	L	F	A	Pts
St George BBC	5	4	1	1	18	8	9
Ast. Institute	5	4	1	0	11	4	8
Melita Eagles	5	4	0	1	10	3	8
Hightields	5	3	1	1	10	7	7
Sydney Olympic	5	2	3	1	8	4	7
Sydney Crocias	5	3	0	2	6	3	8
Wollongong C.	5	2	2	4	8	5	5
Marconi	5	2	0	3	8	13	4
S.A.S.	5	1	3	4	5	5	3
Agila Leichhardt	5	1	3	6	9	3	3
Wollongong M.	5	0	4	1	10	1	1
Adelaide	5	0	5	2	17	0	2

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Carlo Taliadra Adelaide City 6, Joe Barbero Adelaide City 5, George Alkakos Caulfield City 5, Richard Milinovic Melbourne Crocias 5, Nick Papadopoulos Heidelberg United 5, Mitchell Catherman Sunshine George Cross 5.

— ROY HAY

1990 NSW CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS



Sans Souci — U18 Runners-up

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS
U/17



Roselands — AA Womens Runners-up

PHOTOS
BY COURTESY
NSW AMATEUR
SOCCER
FEDERATION

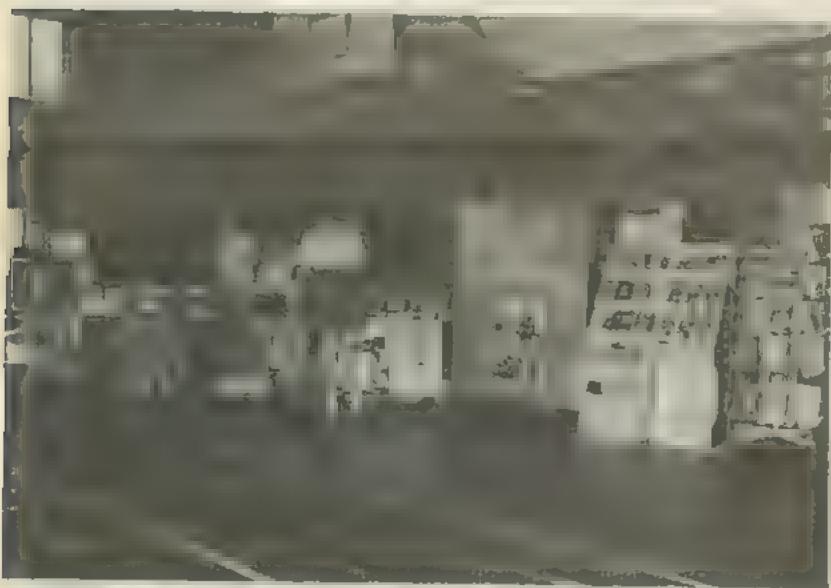


Kissing Point — U21 Runners-up

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS
U/15



Engadine Eagles — AA Runners-up



NSW AMATEURS DISPLAY AT VALENTINE PARK

IN this issue we complete the presentation of the photographs covering three of the NSW Champion of Champion runners-up, together with the runner up of the All Age women's cup.

The Champions series completes the season for the NSW Amateurs, and once again it proved a

brilliant climax for a successful season.

Immediately above are pictures of the outstanding display by sponsors, such as the Commonwealth Bank, together with the various merchandise on sale through the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation.

This proved a definite attraction, and in addition, by purchasing football requirements and Christmas presents through the Federation, some excellent bargains are obtained and the sport benefits from the profit.

The first of the Registration Day banners has already been sighted for one local club on



SOUTHERN DISTRICTS U/15: Jason Winckle, Jose Hidalgo, Jason Mathers, Johnathan Agius, Mark Winfrey, Malcolm Perriotte, Nick Jamsek, Renee Doepeke, Johnathan Pace, Glen McGavigan, Scott Tozer, Christian Blaskovic, Darren Smith, Richard Crecca, Anthony Gigliotti. Coach: John Casserly. Co-ordinator: Paul Harkig. Pic: H. CARRASCO.



Sydney's northside.

The NSW Amateur Federation has decided to have one state-wide registration day, but in so doing it could be wise

for clubs and associations to keep a close eye on their own needs.

Many have developed very successful programs over the years.

It could be advisable for clubs and associations to contact Robert Wheatley, the NSW Amateurs development officer, to see that the latest methods of re-

cruiting are used, along with their own experience over the years.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY will be maintaining its junior, schools and amateur cover each week, so keep in touch through the columns of Australia's foremost soccer newspaper.

In this edition is a copy of the nomination form for schools under 15 teams for the 1991 Turner Cup.

Be sure your school joins in next season.

Next season the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup for boys and the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Shield for girls will also be right to the fore.



SOUTHERN DISTRICT U/17: N. Harris, L. Casserly, R. Tedesco, A. Cres, S. Santucci, F. Messina, R. Sacco, F. Castro, D. Surjan, D. Debernadi, A. Monge, S. Telisman, C. Potter, S. Kostiuk. Coach: Doug Hearnes. Co-ordinator: Paul Harris. Pic: H. CARRASCO.



Hearty congratulations to the Sydney Western Districts Soccer squad, who became NSW State Gold Medalists at the Special Olympics earlier this year. This series is conducted for handicapped people. The Western Districts side did particularly well, as they build up their proficiency in the game with five weeks of intensive training, held at Philip Park, Lurnea.

First for soccer team

For the first time in the memory of any member of the Homebush Boys High School community (including exhaustive research in the school archives) the first grade soccer team won the North West Metropolitan Zone competition.

The side went through the season with nine wins and a loss, scoring 31 goals and allowing only 12.

Of interest is the fact that the defence remained unbroken for the last 270 minutes of the season. Among the more outstanding results were the three victories over arch rivals Epping 5-1, 1-0 and 1-0.

The side exemplified all the attributes of good sportsmanship and fair play that are only now returning to the game at international level and no player was cautioned in any match.



Back Row: B. Arslan, R. Conrad D D'Agruma, G. Ieromino. Standing: R. Doenau (coach), T. Haramis, P. Carniel, X. Ramas, U. Evrigen (Capt.) Front Row: E. Alterisio, A. Matek, J. Nestoras.

This is a credit to the fine leadership skills of captain and players' player of the year, Umit Evrigen and the dedica-

tion of all players to achieving their goal and bringing credibility and stability back to Homebush football.

All players enjoyed their season and were justly rewarded. Congratulations also to the Second Grade who completed the double.

COURTESY WESTERN SUBURBS COURIER

Stanowski's service to Sydney Amateurs

BILL Stanowski's association with soccer at competition level commenced in 1969 when he joined the Bank of NSW Soccer Club as a player, competing in the Western Suburbs Soccer Association.

The following year he was elected as treasurer.

During the next 20 consecutive years Bill remained a committee member of the club, and has held every committee position.

His efforts were recognised in 1979 with life membership.

In 1975 he obtained his referee's ticket and was actively involved with the NSW Referees' Association (Sydney Branch) until 1979.

The Sydney Amateur Soccer League formed its own Referees' Association in 1988 and he was one of those whose efforts saw the birth of this body.

He has now been nominated for a NSW Amateur Soccer Federation Special Award, which he richly deserves.

In 1973 the club, which became Westpac Soccer Club, affiliated with the Sydney Amateur League and he then commenced his association with the League, holding many positions.

His efforts were recognised in 1979 with life membership.

In 1975 he obtained his referee's ticket and was actively involved with the NSW Referees' Association (Sydney Branch) until 1979.

The Sydney Amateur Soccer League formed its own Referees' Association in 1988 and he was one of those whose efforts saw the birth of this body.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

VIC TWO. BEST AND FAIREST — George Campbell (Nunawading City)

VIC TWO. TOP SCORER — Tommy Cumming (Moorabbin)

VIC THREE BEST AND FAIREST — Thomas Fox (Moorabbin City)

VIC THREE TOP SCORER — Ian Stirton (Seaford)

VIC FOUR BEST AND FAIREST — Gary Radcliffe (Boronia)

VIC FOUR TOP SCORER — Laurie Boarotto (Regent)

PROV. ONE BEST AND FAIREST — Stan Webster (St Kilda)

PROV. TWO BEST AND FAIREST — Ivan Gregas (Lyndale Utd)

PROV. THREE BEST AND FAIREST — Bruno Maiolo (Glenroy)

AMATEUR ONE BEST AND FAIREST — Ian Blackhurst (Waverley)

AMATEUR TWO BEST AND FAIREST — Michael Koutsakis (Cretan)

ANDY KUN TROPHY (for Victorian soccer personality of the year) — Steve Blair (South Mel-

bourne Hellas)

AIS and former Sunshine Coast youngster Kevin Muscat flew down from Canberra to receive the 1990 Weinstein Medal for Victorian youth player of the year.

REGIONAL NEWS

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Mark Francis kicking on in Colorado

BY GRAHAM COOKE

MARK Francis has never believed in keeping his talent at home.

Since 1985 he has played and coached regularly in the south west of the United States, finding that hard work and dedication brings, in some cases, substantial rewards.

The former Canberra City, Inter Monaro and Crocias Deakin defender played both indoor and outdoor soccer from his Colorado base, and has retained a lasting impression of the ruthless commercial attitudes used to market and promote the sport against the domination of American football.

Used to the "onhome-one-away" fixtures of traditional league competitions, he was originally taken back at the apparently chaotic arrangements aimed at getting "the best product for the least cost".

"For instance, the organisers could see the value of local derbies from the point of view of promoting interest and rivalry," he said.

"So teams which were close to each other played each other more times than they did other teams."

"Then there were 'cross-over' games with teams in other leagues — the results counted in your competition even if your opponent was outside it."

Trying to compete for interest against the Denver Broncos American football team is a massive task.

"The Broncos have a

65,000 capacity stadium. They only sell season tickets — it is impossible to just walk up to the gate and pay to go in — and if you want a season ticket you have to go on a 13-year waiting list," he said.

"The Colorado Comets, who I played for, could bring in about 1000 people to their games, but if we were competing against the Broncos we would be lucky to get 50."

Francis said the outdoor game was played from May to August with indoor matches from November to March.

In general, Americans prefer playing indoors because of the controlled environment and constant action.

"We got knocked out of the divisional finals in a three-game series, losing the first game 6-4, then winning the second 10-9 in overtime and losing the third 11-10 in overtime. Fifty goals in three games. The crowd love it!"

While playing brought its rewards, it is on the coaching side that qualified individuals can make good money.

"Americans expect to pay to have their children coached no matter how young," Francis said.

"Coaches receive fees for being in charge of teams. They can supplement their incomes by refereeing and private coaching."

"I used to under cut my rivals by charging \$20 per child per hour. With an

average-sized class I could make between \$60 and \$100 an hour — and quite often it was really basic stuff such as how to kick a ball."

"An established soccer coach with a good reputation can earn \$60,000 working as a club coaching director in the Denver area."

All this is developing players with more technique and skill than the average Australian "but tactically, they are still naive".

"One problem is that they get so little exposure to soccer elsewhere in the world."

"The papers don't run the results and the only thing on the radio in my area was a commentary on the South American scene — in Spanish."

An area where he believes the Americans are well ahead of Australia is in their attitude to girls playing soccer.

"There was a team of 12-year-olds who, I can honestly say, would not be touched by a club team in Canberra," he said.

"They trained 12 months of the year, three nights a week and during the entire program there were three no-shows out of a squad of 16. There were even kids who asked for extra training."

Born in Port Moresby, 29-year-old Francis still calls Canberra home, and has spent the winter playing for Tuggeranong Shadows.

However, he admits it is unlikely the United States has seen the last of him.

Young Vic champs

By WAYNE HOWELL

courtesy MELBOURNE SUN



Led by team captain Tim Francis, 11, the Caulfield Primary School soccer team goes for a training run in the school grounds.

NOT having a coach, a field — or even enough grade six students to fill their soccer team — hasn't stopped the boys of Caulfield Primary School becoming champions.

Learning their skills from watching their idols in the World Cup and only being able to practise at lunchtime on gravel, the team has swept aside all opposition in their district.

The boys romped in to win the Caulfield District Primary Schools premiership — beating one team by 19-0.

Their miserly Peter Shilton-like 10-year-old

goalie, Hamilton Goonan, who is only in grade five, hasn't let through one goal in normal time throughout the season.

And in the 10 games, top scorer Dragan Dodic, 11, hit the back of the net 27 times.

The only disappointment in the season for the underdog team was just missing a berth in the Victorian Primary Schools grand final.

Even then they were only knocked out after two bouts of penalty kicks, and were without their star striker.

Yesterday their captain, Tim Francis, was justifiably proud of his

team's efforts even as he was admitting his disappointment that they couldn't go all the way.

And, after the mums and dads, the person proudest of the team was school principal Ms Penny Pentland.

"We are so proud of them getting as far as they did — they even had to call on the enthusiastic young ones because there weren't enough grade sixes," she said.

"But the thing we are most proud of is that all the referees said they played the game like real gentlemen and didn't get all uppity when they won by a lot."

Pagewood-Botany in double win



PAGEWOOD-BOTANY — A's Standing: Denis Alilovic, Leon Vissaritis, Jeffrey Redding, Con Anastasiadis, Con Stavrou, Con "Gosling" Alaveras, David Blinoff. **Crouching:** Robert Cadevski, Marcello Guerreiro, York Antoniou, Angelo Papedakes, Terry Nicou, David Darvill. **Absent:** Nick Rizzo.



PAGEWOOD-BOTANY — B's Standing: John Pante (coach), Glen Nicolis, Daniel Lambi, Chris Salgardo, Steve Vlahos, Andrew Simmons, Anthony Taliana (Coach). **Sitting:** Vince Hansimikali, Anthony Moustacas, David Blinoff, Anthony Dante, Edward Macura, Jimmy Derler, Gabriel Buksh. **Absent:** Luke Houghton.

PAGEWOOD - Botany U11s are the 1990 Southern & Eastern first division soccer champions after an undefeated run to the premiership.

Unbeaten in 18 games, scoring a mammoth 146 goals for and only two against, Pagewood led by Angelo Papedakes and Denis Alilovic turned in some outstanding performances.

The highlights were their two 5-0 triumphs over 1989 champion of champions' winners Maroubra United.

Pagewood, showing great depth, also won the second division with the B team comfortably taking the honours in a competitive competition.

Respective coaches Dominic Taliana and Gary Redding (A) and

John Pante and Anthony Taliana (B) heaped praise on the boys for a magnificent team effort during the season.

1991 BILL TURNER CUP

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North West	BRIAN BOOGS	Richmond River High	066 213456 (S)
New England	BILL SCHOFIELD	Tamworth High	067 657888 (S)
		Armidale High	067 727466 (S)

*Lindsay Hewison, Muirfield High absent in Europe.

Southern Districts Youth League players meet Pele

FROM RON HUGHES



Pele at Sydney Airport with Vince Timpano and Daniel Zampogno.

THE dreams of two youngsters from Southern Districts Under 13 Youth League squad were realised on Wednesday November 7, when they met their idol, the great Pele, as he arrived at Sydney airport.

With an early start required due to Pele's flight scheduled to arrive at 5.30am there were differing emotions out west.

At the Zampogno house, vice captain, Daniel was still half asleep as Coach Ian arrived to pick him up.

The peace was broken early at team captain Vince Timpano's house with Vince up and ready at 3.30am.

Prickling with anticipation Daniel and Vince were wide eyed amongst the news crews at Mascot, to whom this was, for some, just another job.

A news conference for a 12/13 year old boy can be pretty boring, but when questioning both boys I was pleased to hear some very mature answers as they showed an obvious keen interest in Pele's thoughts as he received several searching ques-

tions from the interviewers.

The point which struck deepest with both boys was Pele's opinion that junior players should not just become soccer robots, following blindly the coach's instructions without realising why a player is to take certain actions.

That even at a young age, players need to THINK soccer, to learn to understand the strategy behind each move.

Pele's adopted vocation of reducing the hardship of poverty and the lack of medical facilities in his homeland Brazil also touched both boys.

They compared the contradiction in terms of life in Australia for young people and their counterparts in South American countries.

A day later, at school, mobbed by their friends,

all envious, some jealous, as they fought for a look at the photo of Pele with an arm around each boy and the chatter about seeing them on the television news last night, both Daniel and Vince, two very mature boys, appreciated the opportunity they had both been given.

Pele is a great man, not just because of his achievements in sport, but because of his attitude, his application and his humanity.

A man who, after travelling for hours, sitting through a busy news conference, can still find a few minutes to spare for two young fans, in order to chat with them, sign their soccer balls, pose for the never ending photographs, and then finish with a hug for a couple of kids who share his love of soccer.

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SCHOOL CONTACT PERSON (if not the coach)

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COLOURS: _____

SHIRT: _____

SHORTS: _____

SOCKS: _____

HOME GROUND: _____

COACH'S SIGNATURE: _____

PRINCIPAL'S SIGNATURE: _____

* SEND THIS COMPLETED ENTRY FORM TO YOUR LOCAL CO-ORDINATOR

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1991 Registration Day

Plans for a promotions and registration day for all associations are currently underway for the beginning of 1991.

Many shopping centres are being approached with the objective of providing a centre stage or appropriate area for clubs to "take the game to the public".

The support of all clubs in an association will be required to man the promotion, and support the shopping centres that are assisting the code.



Manchester City's newly appointed coach Peter Reid (left) vies for possession with Manchester United's Clayton Blackmore in the clubs' recent 3-3 league draw.

Greek Wars

BORROWING a page from ancient Greek history, the northern Greek city of Salonika has declared war on the country's capital, Athens, down south.

Of course, we are talking about soccer and not the actual war which Greek city states were involved with in the past.

However, rival fans from the two Cities often engage in pitch battles against each other before and after, and sometimes during, these First Division matches.

This season is no exception.

But a new element was added early on this campaign when PAOK of Salonika walked off the pitch during its contest with Panathinaikos of Athens in the Athens Olympic Stadium.

The northerners thought the referee was not given them a fair shake in the match, which they were losing at the time in the second half 3-1, so the administration of the club took off their team in protest.

Needless to say, the 35,000 fans, officials and sports writers were shocked when at the 77th minute of the contest PAOK President Thomas Voulinous ordered his team off the field after referee Ilias Karamanis showed red cards to two PAOK players.

"I am the president of a historic team and not president of some disarranged league. I take full responsibility for the actions of my club. We must realise someday that the league is not only in

Athens but in other cities as well. All teams should be treated fairly and not because they are from Athens. I hope our action will help improve the league," Voulinous said.

PAOK coach Rob Jacobs said: "This is not a league. In the first 30 seconds of the contest the referee showed a yellow card to one of my players without reason. From then on I knew what was to follow."

* courtesy
WORLD SOCCER

Gayle banned

ENGLISH First Division club Wimbledon has imposed a two-week suspension without pay on striker John Gayle "for acting in a manner not befitting that of a professional footballer".

The London club announced its action following a series of incidents involving Gayle earlier this month.

He was sent off in a 2-1 league defeat at Sheffield United on October 6 after clashing with former Wimbledon midfielder Vinny Jones and afterwards reportedly accused Jones of getting him sent off.

A few days before the Sheffield incident, Gayle had been involved in a training flare-up with team-mate Keith Curle.

Billion-dollar transfer spree by Mexicans

BY CARLOS RAMIREZ*

AFTER the 15-year austerity period in the Mexican economy, most employers learned the lesson taught by our old friend, the milkmaid, who counted her chickens before they were hatched.

Most Mexican businesses have structured themselves in such a way that the new winds of economic recovery have produced a healthy economy, and they will never again fall prey to temporary solutions.

But that's not the case with Mexico's soccer tycoons.

The 1989-90 season was one of the most profitable in Mexican soccer.

As a consequence, cheques came out and investments close to over one billion dollars have been made by the 20 First Division clubs.

They decided to set up a "draft system" similar to the one in effect in American baseball and football.

As a result, more than a third of the 100-odd players put into the market changed teams in a sort of auction.

Players such as Manuel Negrete and Guillermo Vazquez from Pumas UNAM, Edgardo Fuentes from Puebla, Jorge Gabrich from Irapuato and Elias Figueroa from Morelia, were sold like merchandise (Mexicans do not have a players' association, and each negotiates his own contracts).



ROGER MILLA

Vera Cruz, in the First Division again and going for the championship, were the busiest buyers.

In addition to the top stars Bauza, Rergis, Castanon, Palma and the top scorer of 1989-90, Jorge Comas, Vera Cruz bought Jorge Gabrich, the second-highest marksman.

Champions Puebla kept their top stars, Larios, Edivaldo, Ruiz Esparza, Aravena, Poblete, Hernandez and Chepo De la Torre, and tried to sign Roger Milla of Cameroun.

He was offered \$650,000 dollars to play only part-time in each match, but declined.

A total of 27 Argentines, 16 Uruguayans and 14 Brazilians signed with Mexican teams, and in all 74 foreign players are with 19 clubs.

Guadalajara, by tradition, never field a foreigner.

There are eight new coaches and only six of the 20 are Mexican-born.

* — courtesy
WORLD SOCCER

France, Yugoslavia looking good in Euro-92 qualifiers

BY LOU GAUTIER

WITH more than a quarter of the European Championship qualifying programme completed, Yugoslavia have emerged as hot favourites to reach the finals in Sweden in June 1992.

The Yugoslavs remained unbeaten, notching up another impressive win in last week's busy 10 match schedule, when they emphatically beat Denmark 2-0 in Copenhagen with goals by Mehmet Badzarevic and Robert Jarni.

Yugoslavia now have a comfortable lead in Group 4 where Austria flopped again after being held to a scoreless draw at home by Northern Ireland.

Ireland are still unbeaten after 23 matches at home after holding England to a 1-1 draw in Dublin to remain on top of Group 7.

Substitute Tony Cascarino salvaged a point for the home side in the 79th minute after David Platt had put England in the lead 12 minutes earlier.

The match was as boring and mediocre as the teams' 1-1 draw at Italia '90 and was described by the BBC's World Service as an insult to football.

Ireland dominated and deserved to win against an England team which amazingly sidelined Paul Gascoigne, manager Graham Taylor deeming he was "too volatile" — whatever that means — to face the tough-as-teak Irish at Dalymount Park.

Also in Group 7, Poland grabbed two points off an ailing Turkey at Istanbul with a 1-0 win, courtesy of a goal by Glasgow Celtic's Dariusz Dziekanowski.

The amateurs from tiny San Marino did not do a "Faroe Islands" against Switzerland.

They were outclassed by the improving Swiss 4-0 in front of less than 1,000 spectators but, then, the population of San Marino is only 22,000.

In the same Group 2, Scotland drew 1-1 with Bulgaria in Sofia to stay a point ahead of Switzerland at the top of the ladder.

They were outclassed by the improving Swiss 4-0 in front of less than 1,000 spectators but, then, the population of San Marino is only 22,000.

The draw flattered an injury-depleted Scotland.

France dominated a one-way game but could only score once, through Marseille defender Basile Boli, in the 22nd minute.

Midfielder Lubomir Moravcik, who plays for St Etienne in



MEHMED BAZDAREVIC

strikers Jean-Pierre Papin and Eric Cantona, as well as defender Manuel Amoros and midfielders Didier Deschamps and Jean-Philippe Verheyen.

Coach Michel Platini fielded youngsters Daniel Giroud and Philippe Thibaut, and recalled striker Christian Perez for the match.

GIL BANNED

ATLETICO Madrid's controversial president Jesus Gil has been banned from attending another European Cup match until 1992 for calling a referee a homosexual.

Gil, who attacked Michel Vautrot for his handling of last season's UEFA Cup match between Atletico Madrid and Fiorentina, denied the charges and claimed he was the victim of a press campaign.

Though Gil is banned, his club is free to enter next season's competitions if they qualify and the ban does not prevent the hot-tempered Gil to continue as Atletico boss.

Hooligans a headache for a United Germany

POLICE in former East Germany are trying to get a grip on an unprecedented wave of far-right violence, after incidents at a football stadium that left one person dead and nine wounded.

Police used firearms when between 400 and 500 soccer fans tried to force their way into Leipzig stadium two weeks ago.

An 18-year-old man, identified by the police as Mike P., died after he was hit by a bullet.

Police said they had been ringed by hooligans and attacked with iron bars and stones.

"If firearms had not been used policemen would have been killed," Leipzig police official Peter Heimann said.

Police chief Karl-Heinz Krompholz acknowledged that the 219 police on duty near the stadium had not been sufficiently prepared.

"We only expected 300 hooligans," he said.

The shooting was the third involving the police since early September in Leipzig.

Hooligans went on a rampage in central Leipzig after the match between a local club and players from Berlin, setting fire on 15 cars including a police vehicle, smashing 30 windows and looting stores.

Police made 80 arrests, but all but one person were released.

Police fired warning shots to disperse a group of far-right extremists on September 2 and shot two skinheads after clashes between far-right extremists and lefties squatters on October 26.

Files

The violence has raised fears that Germany's economically depressed east could be in for a lengthy spell of ultra-right activities after 45 years of communist rule.

The existence of East German neo-Nazi groups and skinheads became obvious a few weeks after the November 9 breaching of the Berlin Wall.

Sociologists said the fall of the wall led to an identity crisis among many communist-educated youths and a loss of confidence in the future.

Skinhead violence existed under the ousted communist regime, with the secret police football club Dynamo Berlin being a favourite target of hate campaigns, but was quickly quelled by the country's police.

The club has changed its name to FC Berlin after last year's changes.

According to Berlin's anti-extremist police squad, extremist groups were taking advantage of East Germany's newly-acquired freedom in the wake of unification, and co-operating with their counterparts in the west.

Former East Ger-



Fan hooliganism is now a major problem in a United Germany.

many's Stasi security police kept extensive files on soccer hooligans but destroyed the dossiers last year, the "Deutsches Sportecho" newspaper reported.

It said the loss of the archive was making it difficult to control rowdies in the five new German states which previously formed the East. Hooliganism has flared recently, with police

shooting a fan dead during riots in Leipzig.

A former member of the Stasi's Special Sport Unit told the daily the agents had taken video films and photographs of troublemakers to enhance the written files.

The unit, which was directly responsible to Stasi chief Erich Mielke, operated with bogus press passes and drove to soccer matches

in vans disguised as post or television trucks.

It also had undercover officers infiltrate hooligan groups.

"In the 1960s the files and pictures were just part of general observation," said the unnamed Stasi agent.

"But later dossiers on the most radical people were started and they were put on a so-called black list."

Asked where the files were now, the Stasi operative said: "They went up in smoke. We were ordered to destroy them at the end of last November."

Police did not keep such detailed files and are now scrambling to create their own.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl has called for talks between his government and soccer officials.

"Chancellor Kohl is concerned about soccer hooliganism," a government spokesman said, adding that Kohl's close aide Rudolf Seiters has held discussions with interior ministry officials who are responsible for policing.



Lecce's brilliant Brazilian defender Mazinho in action. It's a shame that under new coach Falcao, he, and the other overseas-based Brazilians, can't be considered for national team selection.



Swedish international Glen Stromberg takes off for his Italian club Atalanta.

UEFA may ban crisis hit Yugoslav clubs

BY TIM COLLINS*

RISING violence threatens the future of Yugoslav club and international soccer after the clash between Hajduk Split and Partizan Belgrade was abandoned.



This fixture is often seen as a manifestation of the ethnic tension dividing the clubs and the two regions of Croatia and Serbia.

The invasion by an estimated 1,600 fans, came when Partizan had gone 2-0 up.

The home fans, from the Adriatic port of Split in Croatia, could not bear to see the visitors, from Belgrade, capital of Serbia take control.

It was too much like the political scenario — Belgrade is the despised ruling capital and the Croatians want to break away from its grip.

Angry supporters ran amok, burnt Yugoslav national flags and flaunted symbols of Croatian independence.

The local Croatian police did nothing to stop them.

Luckily there were no serious injuries, but the incident was disturbing enough to force the Yugoslav Federation into action.

Hajduk were ordered to close their

stadium until further notice and to play their home matches at least 150 kilometres from Split.

The federation also were considering further penalties for the future at a club where hooliganism has been a serious problem in the past.

Hajduk were banned from playing European matches at home for three years after their fans had thrown teargas canisters on to the pitch during a Cup-Winners' Cup tie with Marseille in 1987.

They have not qualified for Europe since.

The Hajduk-Partizan outburst was not the first this season.

Only three days earlier, in Belgrade, a dozen fans were treated for injury after violent clashes before the match between Partizan and Sarajevo, of Bosnia.

Again the clashes were thought to have ethnic origins.

And there were violent scenes involving Dinamo Zagreb fans and Italian supporters when the Croatian club played Atalanta in Bergamo in the UEFA Cup first round.



The match ended 0-0 but more than 30 people were injured, some seriously.

One Dinamo fan lost the sight in one eye.

Last season more than 150 fans and police were injured after a brawl on the pitch between fans of Dinamo Zagreb and Red Star Belgrade.

The situation has reached such a level that UEFA must now be considering drastic action, possibly a total ban on all Yugoslav clubs in Europe, if the violence continues.

And there is a serious threat to the future of the Yugoslav national team.

The Federation could break up and be unable to select a team to represent the country.

This prospect was given sharper focus when Croatia organised an international against the United States — a clear hint of things to come.

* courtesy
WORLD SOCCER



Curb television power!

Arthur Rotmil interviews Sampdoria boss VUJADIN BOSKOV In World Soccer magazine.

Television should not dictate to the football authorities and must not be allowed to manipulate the playing programme to suit their own schedules.

That is the opinion of one of Europe's most experienced and respected coaches, the Yugoslav-born Vujadin Boskov, the 59-year-old chief of Italy's Sampdoria, current holders of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Boskov also has some explosive views on the future of European football, the spiralling transfer system and the increase in players' earnings.

His opinions carry a lot of authority for he was himself a world-class midfielder, capped 58 times.

Boskov played for three clubs in three countries and in 27 years managed nine clubs in five countries, among them such famous outfits as Real Madrid, Feyenoord, and now Sampdoria. He also led Yugoslavia's national side.

In this exclusive interview Boskov told me: "The advent of a European league will give the game an enormous boost."

Ironically, Vujadin is in constant demand, especially by Italian television.

For he is eloquent and his views are always worth listening to and he doesn't pull any punches.

Joining the recent 'Great TV Debate' was UEFA's general secretary Gerhard Aigner who does not subscribe to the oft advanced argument that television could in future dictate the fixture programme.

"Television provides an important source of income for all football, but will never become a ruling body," he told World Soccer.

"It is not in its interest to exercise control over how the game is run and in any case, we are watching the situation closely.

"Of course, it is becoming increasingly difficult to arrange the transmissions, since so



ROBERTO BAGGIO

many games are staged on the same day. Many clubs are now switching their ties to Tuesday, or Thursday to avoid competing with TV on Wednesday, but that is plainly unavoidable."

As to the movement of players when the European Common Market becomes fully integrated in 1992, Boskov is realistic.

"The freedom of contract will inevitably lead to an even greater transfer activity. Of course, there will still be outrageous transfer fees paid.

"But if any club is willing to fork out \$18 million, like Juventus did for Roberto Baggio, then good luck to them.

"Every footballer is worth whatever is offered for him.

"But I wouldn't pay that much for any player."

Is Boskov concerned that the wealthiest clubs will in time scoop Europe's richest talents?

"No! The establishment of an elite of clubs with the best of the talent will produce such high standards that it will be good propaganda for the football. It will provide a yardstick for the others."

"The stars should get what they can out of their clubs, the sponsors and advertising.

"The market forces will determine what the player is worth in terms of wages."

It is interesting that Boskov leads a squad of highly-paid star footballers and that he was probably behind Sampdoria's widely publicised, preposterously exaggerated valuation of \$25 million on their international striker Gianluca Vialli.

Chris Waddle, of Marseille, in action against Lech Poznan in the European Champions' Cup. Marseille won their Round 2 tie 8-4 and now await the quarter-final draw set down for December 18.

ENGLAND SEEKS WORLD CUP



The 1966 World Cup final and Wolfgang Weber scores for West Germany in the final minute of normal time against the victors, England. Also in the picture are Uwe Seeler, George Cohen, Bobby Moore, Ray Wilson, Kurt Schnellinger, Jackie Charlton and Gordon Banks (the goalkeeper).

THE English Football League is set to launch a bid to stage the 1998 World Cup finals.

English newspaper the "Sunday Times" says the English Football League decided to proceed with a bid at a management meeting.

League officials believe the sport's governing body FIFA would look favourably on England, which staged the finals in

1966 and won.

The League believe holding the World Cup again would hasten long overdue ground improvements.

World Cup candidates must provide eight 40,000-seater stadiums and at least one of 80,000 for the final. Only Wembley meets the requirements.

Bids have to be in to FIFA before the end of June next year.

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